WARREN MAGAZINE

ALL ABOUT TIME AFTER TIME

PAGE 32

FAMOUS MONSTERS #159

FAMOUS MONSTERS

$1.50
58380-8
NOV. 1979

MORE ON THE ALIEN MOVIE!

WHAT THE EXPERTS ARE SAYING ABOUT IT!

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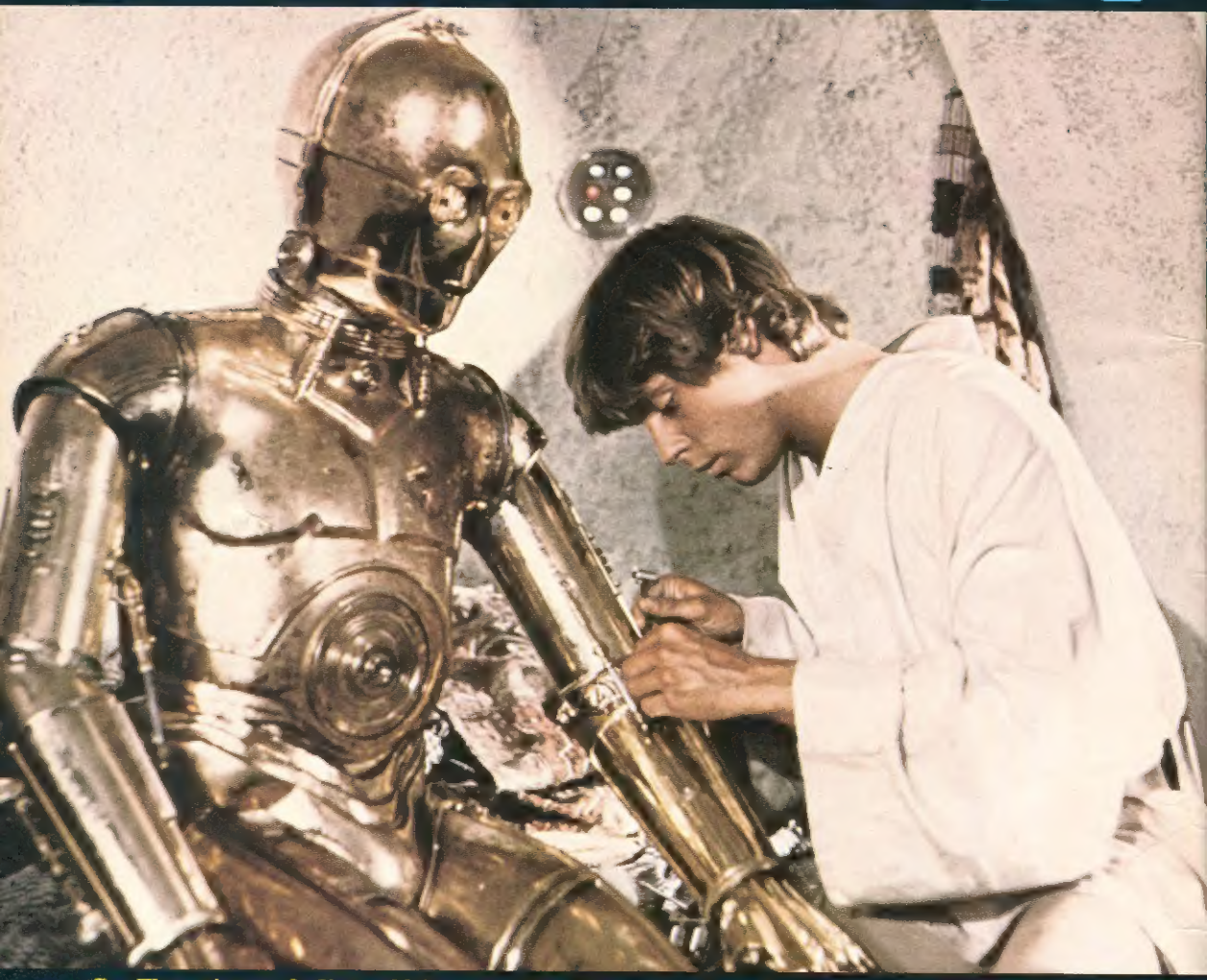
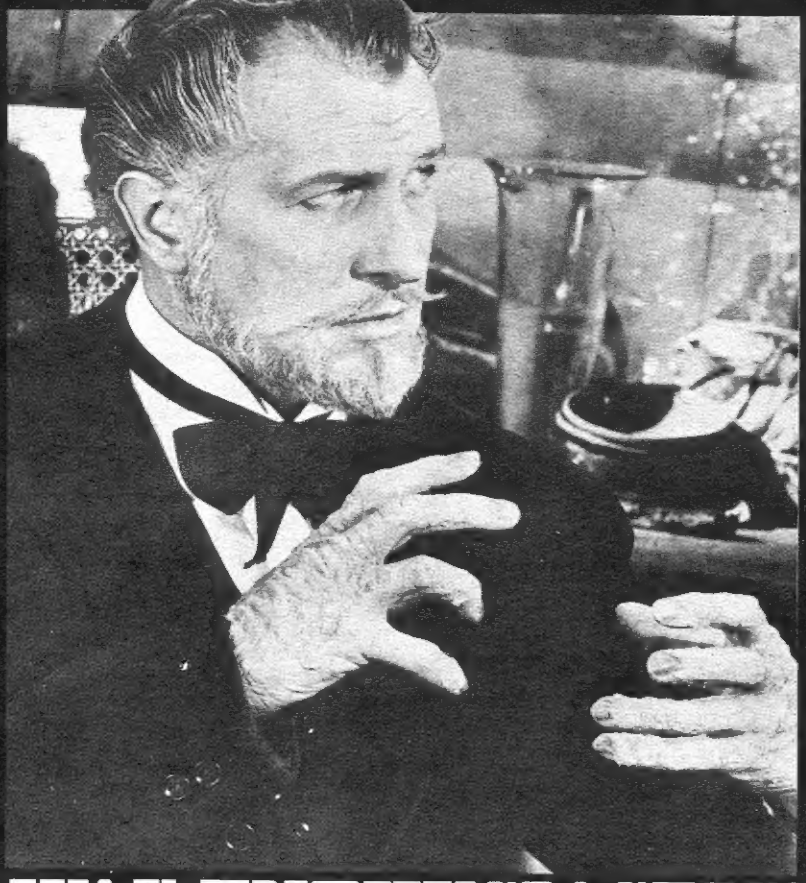
OIL'S WELL FOR C-3PO



See-Threepio was feeling cold & poorly, like his batteries were all run down and oil was low in his crank tank (that always makes him cranky) till young Skywalker came along and fixed his cams and now C-3PO is no longer chilly, Billy, he's feeling, er, at least Luke warm. You'll feel positively HOT--flushed with excitement--as you flip (out) thru this farout issue!

SPEAKING OF MONSTERS



WAX ENTHUSIASTIC!

WELCOME to the HOUSE OF WHACKS.

It made a hit with Vincent Price so you ought to find this issue a hot one too. We burned the candle at both ends (and the middle) to melt down any resistance you might have to buying this copy. Surely you can't resist the mad antics of the Maniacal Muppet Monsters. TIME AFTER TIME you'll return to MOS EISLEY'S CANTINA where you can drink a toast with Prince Sirki and meet the late David Fleischer after reading about his demise in our Obit Dept. On top of all this is a generous helping of fantastic news about the amazing imagi-movies that are in the works. So get the wax out of your ears and hear us good as we repeat: WELCOME to our Burning Issue. It's as hot as Fear-'n'-Hate 451!

FORREST J ACKERMAN

FANG MAIL

THIS ISSUE DEDICATED TO ROB RICHARDSON

When you find a lot more birthday dates of horror stars & supporting players published in future issues, you can be grateful (as FM is grateful) to ROB because he has done a fine job of supplying us with a quarter hundred. Happy Birthday to YOU, Rob, whenever it may be!

WANTED! More Readers Like

MATICEK GRABNAR of Yugoslavia

HONOREE GOES WHEE!

While browsing thru the articles, I happened to look at the letters page. I almost died of shock when I saw who the issue was dedicated to. You have no idea how honored I was. I ran around the store where I worked, like a teenager (I'm 26), showing off my name in your magazine. Altho I recently accomplished my goal of getting a job as a chemist, this was the proudest moment of my life. Since I was small, I've been a fan of movies of terror and even a bigger fan of your magazine. Whatever people say about "horror" & "sci-fi" films, I believe that besides allowing people to escape from the drudgery of today, they allow people to dream of tomorrow. Instead of rambling on, let me say thank you for your honor and I hope that you are editor forever.

KEN BISHOP
Revere, Mass.

HELLO—IT'S HALLOWEEN

HALLOWEEN. I know there will be some people out there who will just shake their heads and say it was another "knife-wielding-maniac picture". It was. However, one thing I was impressed with was the tension & suspense the picture maintained, a very hard thing to do nowadays with people who have seen blood splashed every way but out of a screen. Which brings me to another point. I think that movies that hope to gain an aspect of terror in their films nowadays thru excessive blood-letting only add the ridiculous & laughable to their plots. The blood that flowed in HALLOWEEN gave the audience an excitement-filled shock of fear, not a bloodbath.

JIM LAMBERT
Urbana Ohio

STARCRASH A SMASH

I just saw Luigi Cozzi's SF film STARCRASH and I thought it was terrific. The special effects were superb. The laser beams, hyperspace, golems, Amazon statue, Akton's mental powers, to mention just a few, were great. The star crash was good but it was too similar to earlier explosions in the film. The scene where Stella Star was defrosted by Akton after being frozen on a cold alien planet was my favorite scene. I thought Marjoe, Munro, Hasselhoff & Plummer were all excellent. Judd Hamilton played a much better robot than those of STAR WARS or BUCK ROGERS because of his physical abilities. The robots of STAR WARS & BUCK ROGERS were used for cuteness, nothing more.

As usual, Caroline Munro was the movie's best special effect. As the galaxy's best pilot, Ms. Munro was at her peak form. Ms. Munro should be a well-welcomed change to male SF fans due to her stunning attributes and also to female SF fans who are tired of the male character always being the person depended upon the save the universe.

JIM GILLIS
F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo.

WANTED! More Readers Like

MIHO "TENSHI" SHIBANO of Japan

THE PRICE OF MONSTERDOM

Your article & fotos really space me out. Sometimes I just sit & glare at the cover for a few hours without turning a page. One of my favorite things are those little puns you stick under your fotos but then again I like humor about as much as I like monsters. I really don't think there could be another magazine that covers articles so interestingly & humorously as **FM.** Ever since I was a little tyke I've been fascinated by monsters. Then I began reading your magazine and I wished even more than ever that I could have something to do with monsters. Your magazine made that wish come true. I won 6th place in the great STAR WARS contest. Try to imagine how I felt seeing my face in the same magazine with SUPERMAN & THE LORD OF THE RINGS. After that I know I was made to have something to do with monsters. Thanks for making me feel that I am finally a Famous Monster.

JODY PRICE
Anderson, IN.

WANTED! More Readers Like

MARK FARRELL

HOORAY FOR RANDY & HAMMER

I would just like to thank Randy Palmer for the consistency of his great horror articles on Hammer Films. Thanks to Hammer Films I got started on the horror trend. HORROR OF DRACULA first introduced me to the "better" side of horror films and firmly & forever acclaimed Christopher Lee & Peter Cushing as my favorite actors. After I was dead set (pardon the pun) on being a horror addict I decided on reading THE monster magazine, **FAMOUS MONSTERS.**

A salute should be given by Hammer devotees to Mr. Palmer for his upclose & very informative articles on every aspect of Hammer Films. From Chris Lee's Dracula & Frankenstein & others to Peter Cushing's Van Helsing & Dr. Frankenstein, Mr. Palmer makes us proud to be horror fans and even prouder to be Hammer fans. I will always look forward to Randy Palmer's articles & any articles in your magazine concerning Hammer Films. Thanks a lot for making me proud to be a horror fan and because of **FM** I always will be until my last day on this planet.

COLIN FARRELL
Medford, N.J.

IN SHORT

I thought your article on 60 years of horror, "The Horror Show", was terrific.—**DANIEL WALIMAA, Detroit.** Randy Palmer's article on TASTE THE BLOOD OF DRACULA was one of the most interesting ever to grace your pages.—**DAVID WALKER, Columbia, TN.** I'm 15 and think I'm old enough to see DAWN OF THE DEAD.—**RUSSELL BATES (address lacking).** Without the editor's pun-crazy lyrics **FM** would be half as much fun.—**TED TAYLOR, S. AUSTRALIA.** Your special magazine on LORD OF THE RINGS was well worth the price.—**LEN CARROLL (no address).** When I have just watched a horror movie I read an **FM** and it makes me feel good.—**MIKE VERNO (no address).** Some time ago I ordered 4 back **FMs.** In 2 weeks I got them. 2 weeks! I expected them to be cheap reprints. They weren't.—**RICKY CARTER, Columbia, MO.** Reading **FM** is like going thru a haunted house—with a guide.—**EDDIE LEACH, Milwaukee, OR.** I would like penpals from N.Y. I am a Ugandan boy 15.—**SAMUEL NABUSOBA.W. c/o Miss Ross Kakyi, POB 408, Jinja, Uganda, S. AFRICA.**

FANG MAIL CONTINUED ON PAGE 65

OUR COVER:
A STUDY IN TERROR. A MOMEMT OF HORROR. NOTHING IN HER PREPARATION FOR SPACE-FLIGHT HAS PREPARED ASTRONAUT VERONICA CARTWRIGHT FOR THE XENOMORPHIC SIGHT THAT CONFRONTS HER SENSES AS SHE GAZES IN DISBELIEF AT THE MONSTROSITY THAT IS . . . THE "ALIEN".

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FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND. Number 159 Published monthly except February & December by Warren Publishing Co. Editorial, Business & Subscription offices at 145 East 32nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10016. Second-Class mail privileges authorized at New York, N.Y. and additional mailing offices.

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Subscriptions in the U.S.: 10 issues (includes special Summer issue and special Christmas issue): $16.00; Canada and Elsewhere: $20.00. Editorial contributions are invited, provided that return postage and envelopes are enclosed; however, no responsibility can be accepted for unsolicited material or photographs.

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FAMOUS MONSTERS®

Incorporating MONSTER WORLD

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NOVEMBER 1979

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14 **MUPPET MONSTERS** Muppets in their own movie! It had to happen! The Great Gonzo, Kermit, Sam the Eagle, Miss Piggy and a stellar collection of stars in cameo roles!

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22 **ALIEN VIEWPOINTS** Alien has exploded across the screens of America with such intensity that everyone is talking about it! Here are the thoughts of some opinion makers!

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32 **TIME** In 1979, Jack the Ripper fell from time, and H.G. Wells, down timeless dells, chased Jack through modern police lines! Robert Bloch's latest movie is sure to be a thriller!

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the dam has burst

FANTASY FILM FLOOD

DELUGE!

in 1933 it was a scientifilm Disaster Movie about the End of the World by earthquake & flood.

Today it's the prospect for the near future in fantastic filmdom!

The new wave 'round the world is a tidal wave of imagi-movies, from cine-supernatural to sci-fi extravaganzas!

Alien Force will be a 2-hour pilot from Quinn-Martin Productions *(The Invaders)* for ABC/TV, with 5 more episodes slated for production.

SATELLITE 3 pairs Kirk (THE FURY) Douglas & Farrah (The Smile) Fawcett-Majors (seen in LOGAN'S RUN) as co-scientists in a satellite orbiting the great ringed world. Aboard their artificial worldlet comes Capt. James (Harvey Keitel), a mysterious imposter whose mental stability is suspect. With the curious captain comes a robot which wreaks havoc in the space station.

MAD MAX is a futuristic adventure drama on its way up to us from Australia.

Robert Bloch's hit of yesteryear (correction: yester fear) ASYLUM will be driving audiences into a frenzy once again when re-released under the new title of THE HOUSE OF CRAZIES. (This kind of thing has been done in the past, i.e., THE BLACK SLEEP became DR. CADMON'S SECRET, Claude Rains & Fay Wray in THE CLAIRVOYANT became THE EVIL MIND, etc.)

drac is back

Not that he's ever been far from the screen since Bela Lugosi's portrayal of him in 1931 but THE 7 BROTHERS MEET *DRACULA* in a new vampiric adventure. Vampirewise, watch out also for THE SPACE VAMPIRES, DIVORCE VAMPIRE STYLE (sequel to LOVE AT FIRST BITE), DRACULA FEVER & DRACULA'S LAND.

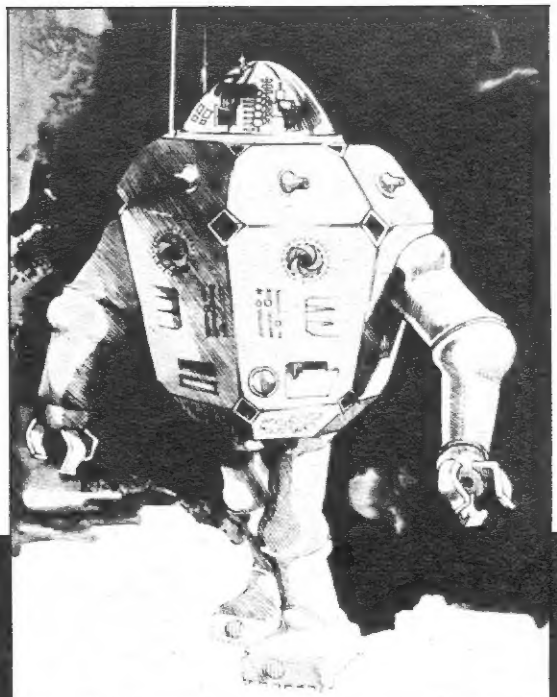
From Singapore, DYNAMITE JOHNSON: "Mightier & stranger than King Kong, Faster than the $6 Million Man, Deadlier than the Bionic Woman, More Powerful than a Super-Sonic jet fighter & Atomic Battleship combined!" (And that's only in the trailer.)

Alien Invaders assume the shape of humans (it seems to we we've heard that song before: IT CAME FROM OUTER SPACE, INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS, VILLAGE OF THE DAMNED) and attempt to take over the Earth

in THE HUMANOID, starring Richard "Jaws" Kiel.

Battlestar Galactica will be back in a series of 2-hour specials.

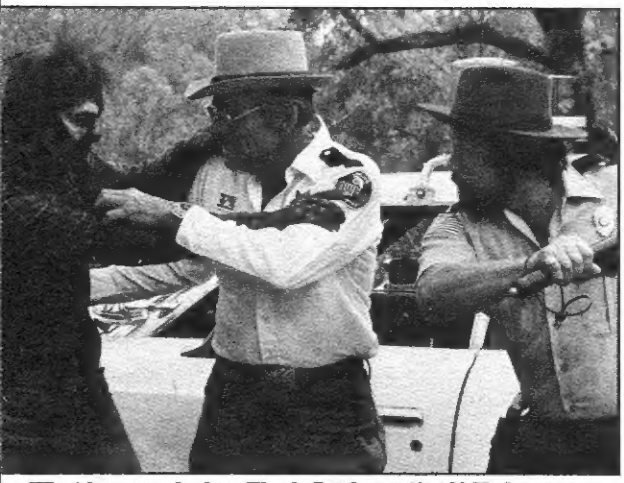
"The Continuous Katherine Mortonhoe", British novel, will have its title radically shortened when it reaches the screen. This filmed-in-Glasgow futuristic movie will be known as DEATHWATCH. If you can't wait for the motion picture but want to read the story now, try getting ahold of a copy of the DAW pocketbook of 1974, "The Unsleeping Eye" by DGCompton. Quoting from Donald Wollheim's back cover blurb: *Katherine Mortenhoe was going to die. She was going to do it slowly, painfully and before the eyes of millions. It was to be on a television program of the highest rating. The crisis & problems of the closing years of the 20th Century had forced the entertainment industry to ever-escalating needs to hold its audiences. And*



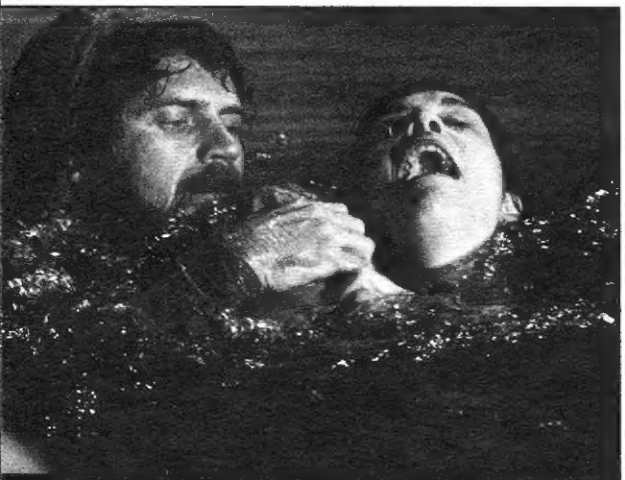
One of the "Shapes" of Things to Come in the new TV trip to the Future.

Action explodes in the Wellsian World of The Shape of Things to Come.

The bats do their thing in . . . NIGHTWING.



What happened when Flash Gordon retired? He became the Sheriff (Buster Crabbe) in IT FELL FROM THE SKY. Here he fights an undead mutant.



Talia Shire & Robert Foxworth fight for all they're worth to stay afloat in PROPHECY, the tale of the grisly mutant giant bear.

fatal illness — once so common — had become such a rarity that Katherine's doom was a magnet for all eyes. Katherine thought she had evaded the television ghouls. She has been helped to do so by her newfound friend Roddie. He was sensitive, he was understanding, he helped her flee the morbid metropolis. But Roddie was The Unseeing Eye. And what Roddie saw & heard, the whole world saw & heard. But what Roddie thought & sought, only Katherine was to learn. And you!

shining stars

A $12 million sf epic with 17 weeks of principal photography & 20 weeks of special fx is in progress in England, a kind of WHERE EAGLES DARE set in space. 5 unique characters are to be portrayed by international stars. Called FIVE STAR FIVE, it's scheduled for release Xmas 1980.

Xmas 1979 (Dec. 7, to be exact) is the release date of STAR TREK: THE MOTION PICTURE.

THE SHINING (Kubrick/King) is due to be "shone" your way 'ere long.

Another $12 million space epic, with A. E. van Vogt coscripting, is being contemplated by Golan-Globus.

FLASH GORDON is due from Dino 15 Dec. 1980.

A couple of Earthlings (one of whom is John Forsythe) are recruited for a trip into space in a TV show to be called *The Mysterious Two* or *The Mysterious Pair* or *The Mysterious Duo.*

A group of French gendarmes has a close encounter of the third kind in THE COPS & THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIALS.

THE LATHE OF HEAVEN is Ursula K. Le Guin's entry in the Alien Chronicles race.

how we dune?

We're doin' great, DUNE-wise, with author Frank Herbert being paid $1 million for the film rights to his classic—and doing the screen adaptation himself, hurrah! *Arrakis, the desert planet called Dune, is ruled by the Fremen, the long-lived warriors with eyes of total blue, who ride giant sandworms and mine the wastelands for their addictive spice. These are the fierce warriors that Paul Atreides must conquer and then rule in order to overcome the superior forces arrayed against them.*

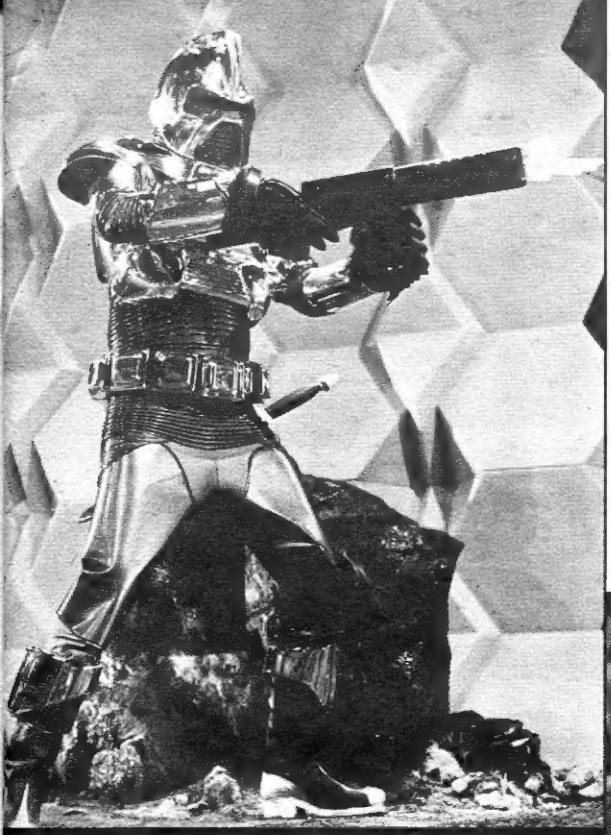
India's first multistar horror film is JAANI DUSHMAN.

TEENAGE MONSTER RUMBLE has been scripted by Don Glut.

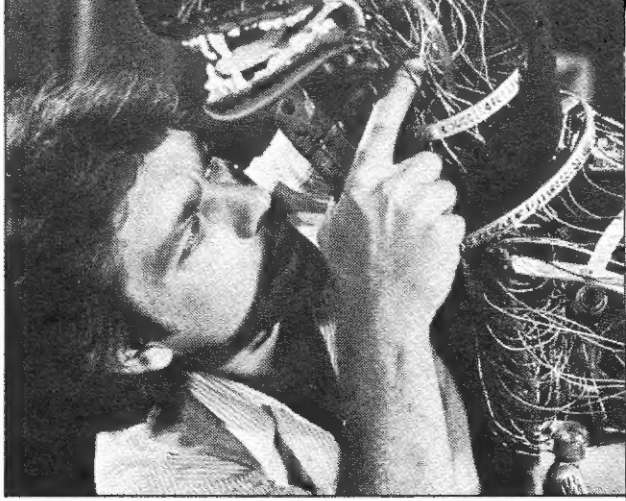
Miss Universe 3000 is the brainchild of Jim Wynorski & Mark (EQUINOX) McGee.

BEAUTIFUL is the story of a woman whose goal is eternal youth — so she sells her soul.

Few things are worse than the curse of . . . THIRST. THIRST can be an INFERNO that can make you long to meet the ICEMAN . . .



Don't fret, Battlestar Galactica fans, it's not thru yet. There'll be further adventures of the ragtag space fleet off & on in 2 hour episodes.



Inventor puts finishing touches to world's first computerized watchdog in C.H.O.M.P.S. (Canine Home Protection System).

IT FELL FROM THE SKY . . . and turned a nice guy into this yecchy zombie.

"1941" was never like this! Steve Spielberg turns back the clock to a cockeyed look at a fantastic 4-ring circus of incredible action, a 5-alarm version of weird happenings during World War 2.

ROOSEV
HOLLYWOOD LANE

Vermilion victim of vampiric cultists in THIRST, Australian horror film.

even if he turns out to be a SPACE TRAMP!

THE DAY OF DAYS will be when LILITH & THE ALCHEMIST meet THE SHERIFF & THE SATELLITE KID (Cary "CE3K" Guffey). Or perhaps when DR. JEKYLL JR. meets THE FISH MEN on THE ISLAND OF THE LIVING DEAD. What will happen when THE PUMAMAN meets THE BEAST & THE VIXENS? (The latter R-rated.)

"Galaxy One", a pay-cable TV package, will feature EYES BEYOND THE STARS with Martin Balsam, the college crowd's cult film DARK STAR and THE LUCIFER COMPLEX with Robert Vaughn & Keenan Wynn.

Film Magicke Inc. has optioned "The Sword of Shannara" by Terry Brooks. *Long ago the wars of ancient Evil had ruined the world and forced mankind to compete with many other races — gnomes, trolls, dwarfs & elves. The giant forbidding Allanon, possessed of strange Druidic powers, revealed that the supposedly dead Warlock Lord was plotting to destroy the world. The sole weapon against this Power of Darkness was the Sword of Shannara, which could only be used by a true heir of Shannara. On half-elfin Shea Ohmsford, last of the bloodline, rests the hope of all races. Soon a Skull Bearer, dread minion of Evil, flies into Shady Vale. Shea flees, drawing the Skull Bearer after him. And this is just the beginning of the saga of the rambling, hopeless quest of a simple man against the greatest power of evil the world has ever known.*

BID TIME RETURN by Richard (Poe Master) Matheson has been optioned for filming. Called "a haunting blend of great romance & mesmerizing mystery — intriguing — tantalizing — marvelous — captivatingly weird — unique & exciting", it poses the question: If past & present can co-exist, might it not be possible to jump back into time?

George Pal, in collaboration with Joe Morheim, has completed the novelization of a sequel to "The Time Machine", a thrilling tale of the world in terror of giant insects when time is running out for Terra. High hopes are held for filming the book.

coming attractions

THE AFTERMATH has been completed. Forrest J. Ackerman has a cameo role of Prof. Clark, curator of the last museum on Earth after the worldwide destruction that has left the remnants of humanity beset by hideous mutations.

Herb Jeffries, the famous black singer, will essay the role of the kindly alien in CHILD FROM THE STARS. Lew Ayres (DONOVAN'S BRAIN, *Galactica*) has accepted a role in the picture and FM's Editor will appear as himself, "Mr. Science Fiction", being interviewed on television concerning the incredible kidnappings and the strange events taking place on the dark side of the Moon. FJA recently finished a part as a TV newscaster in the semipro production of THE HORROR MOVIE and is scheduled to appear with Kirk Alyn, of author David Gerrold, Bjo Trimble & others in the profan (not to be confused with profane) production SUPERBMAN.

Buster Crabbe stars in his first science fiction film in many many years: IT FELL FROM THE SKY, a meteor-oriented melodrama about a small town Sheriff (Buster) with a monster problem on his hands when a meteor falls on a boatload of people and, from what we can make out, turns them into sort of mutated zombies. Sounds like a kind of NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD plot. The cast includes Mike Bonavia from TV's *Stowaway to the Moon* and Norman Riggins of *Dark Shadows*. If his ailing health permits, Kirby Grant will appear as Doc Ellerbe; he will be remembered as TV's *Sky King* and the hero of THE SPIDER WOMAN STRIKES BACK.

Further fantafilms forecast include:

PARADISE LOST — SCALPEL — TANYA'S ISLAND (makeup by Rick Baker) — THE PROMETHEUS CRISIS — THE ALPHA INCIDENT — Bionic Man Lee Majors in "SHARKS! — OLE DOC METHUSELAH (L. Ron Hubbard) — MONUMENT (Lloyd Biggle Jr.) — THE GREAT JUDGE (A.E. van Vogt) — SOMETHING WEIRD — SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMES (Ray Bradbury) — THE

Is it a product of the Bearman Studios? No, the Berman Studios. The Unbearable Mutation is the Big Bad Bear from PROPHECY.

CLONES ... "1941" (Steven Spielberg) ... THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK (Leigh Brackett's sequel to STAR WARS; a fan of & contributor to **FM** has, in collaboration with Lucas, written the novel; we'll proudly reveal his/her name as soon as official authorization is given to do so) ... the re-release of CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND with additional footage ... the re-release of ALIEN with stronger horror sequences ... METEOR ... VORTEX ... CONAN ... Asimov's I ROBOT ... THE HOUSE THAT STOOD STILL by A.E. van Vogt ... IN THE DAYS OF THE COMET (Wells/Bloch/Pal) ... CALLAHAN'S CROSSTIME SALOON by Spider Robinson ... DARKER THAN YOU THINK by Jack Williamson ... MARK OF THE BEAST ... a sequel to STARCRASH ... and remakes of:

VILLAGE OF THE DAMNED
ATTACK OF THE 50-FOOT WOMAN
IT! — THE TERROR FROM BEYOND SPACE
THE CREATURE
FROM THE BLACK LAGOON
and
THE INCREDIBLE
SHRINKING MAN (WOMAN)

And — FINAL COUNTDOWN!

"Dig you later, alligator." "After awhile, zagatile!" responds FM fan turned actor, George Stever, in THE ALIEN FACTOR.

END

ZOOT!
Rowlf!
Dr. Teeth!
Sam the Eagle . . . Robin the Frog . . . The Great Gonzo . . . all of them & many more together in one howlarious film.
Plus!
Guest Appearances by:
MEL (YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN) BROOKS
BOB (CAT & CANARY) HOPE
CLORIS (YOUNG FRANK) LEACHMAN
TELLY (HORROR EXPRESS) SAVALAS
ORSON (WAR OF WORLDS) WELLES
PAUL (PHANTOM PARADISE) WILLIAMS
CHARLES (THE FURY: EVIL DOCTOR) DURNING
ELLIOTT (CAPRICORN ONE) GOULD

the divine swine

Featured, of course, is that Love Goddess of the Pork Set, that Heavenly Ham, that Beauty who brought home the Bacon in such unforgettable hits as THE PIG PARADE, THE PIG SLEEP, PIG FOOT, THE HAMS OF ORLAC, BACONELLA, SWINEY TODD (THE DEMON BARBER) and the hampire classic by Ham Stoker—PORKULA!: Miss Piggy.

the frog joins the hog

Miss Piggy & Kermit the Frog, the green & lovable Master of Ceremonies from TV's *Muppet Show*, lead the rest of the gang on a cross-country escapade filled with adventure & fun. Kermit's beginnings sprouted from guest appearances on the educational TV children's show *Sesame Street* where he along with the other odd denizens presented a way

THE MANIACAL MUPPET MONSTERS

"Sez who?" "Sesame!" sez the Big Bird of Sesame Street, who plays a cameo role in THE MUPPET MOVIE.

Dr. Teeth. His Motto is "Tooth or Consequences". Only his dentist has a lot of pull with him.

Helpless Humans meet the Frog Monster. (Shortly after this picture was taken he croaked.)

Legal Eagle Sam, self-appointed Super Censor. He'd cut a naked light bulb out of a G-rated Disney cartoon!

Is it Long Chainey? No, it's "Animal", the Mad Drummer of The Electric Mayhem. His performances are said to be spektacular.

to make learning fun for young & old alike.

From there the odd crew graduated to their own show, *The Muppet Show*, where the character studies were expanded and top name entertainers signed on. It's since become a very successful program, reminiscent of the old *Laugh-In* show. It's filled with one-liners & corny jokes which the Muppet characters bring off well.

Last winter several of the technicians who work the Muppet characters visited the editor's home along with John (ANIMAL HOUSE) Landis. Among them were Richard Hunt (who works Scooter, Janice and Sweetums). At the time they were discussing the upcoming movie and explained that Muppet King (& creator) Jim Henson couldn't be there because he was out buying new clothes for Miss Piggy!

So! The secret's out! Miss Piggy does not travel the streets of New York or Los Angeles haunting the exclusive shops all by herself!

True to her Piggy form, she passes the task on to someone else.

raising a fuzz

Now comes the Big Event.

A new day in Muppetdom.

The zany cast has assembled for a colorful musical production which is utterly unique & original & just plain fun. Even tho we *know* the characters are nothing but fuzzy pieces of material operated by human hands, somehow they seem *real*. They appear to have emotions, quirks, abilities & life all their own.

And this is due to the genius of Jim Henson & the other talented individuals who contribute to the success of Henson's creations.

The MUPPET MOVIE takes us to a realm of cartoon-like innocence where real people mix with unreal personalities. Not quite Disney, with live action & animation, but something more varied & believable.

The situation begins with Kermit the Frog, the ever-popular amphibian who rarely goes near water. Once upon a time he sat alone on one of the shows and sang the song, "It's Not Easy Being Green." Yet for him it seems to come naturally.

Comedian Dom DeLuise is a Hollywood agent traveling the backroads of the deep south. He is hopelessly lost in the swamp, trying to find his way out, when he sees an incredible sight:

There, sitting quietly in the swamp, is a frog. Nothing strange about that except that *this* frog is strumming a banjo and singing a song!

swamped with offers

DeLuise stops the car and tells Kermit that there's a demand for talented frogs such as himself and Kermit begins to see stars in his eyes.

Before long he's on his way to Hollywood and hopefully fame, fortune & a write-up in FM.

Kermit is good company for DeLuise as they drive west to Celluloid City, but there's something the frog sees that sends chills up & down his spindly legs, and with good reason.

Doc Hopper's Restaurant!

Home of the world-famous Fried Frogs' Legs!

And there's a chain of them across the country!

hopping mad

There's a villain in this, of course, and it's Doc himself.

Max! What a Hollywood agent is to an actor, Max is to Doc Hopper. He scouts for the best frogs' legs money can buy. And he's got his eye on Kermit.

Max & Doc follow Kermit & the gang across the country as the suspense builds. Doc is determined to obtain the most delectable frogs' legs he's ever seen!

Stopping at the El Sleezo Cafe, run by tough guy James Coburn, Kermit meets a couple of ladies played by Madeline Kahn & Carol Kane and an even tougher guy, Telly Savalas. We remember him from HORROR EXPRESS (with Peter Cushing & Christopher Lee) as the brutal Russian policeman, and equally hard as TV's rough-'n'-ready Kojak.

DeLuise & Kermit relax in the cafe while the piano player, portrayed by the PHANTOM OF THE PARADISE himself, Paul Williams, introduces a new act:

Fozzie Bear & his Comedy Routine!

unbearable

The act is less than successful and Kermit, feeling sorry for the rejected bear, joins in the act in a song & dance bit.

That's an even bigger flop!

The crowd hisses & boos, and it's the unlikely duo.

All the while, Max & Doc watch the goings-on from behind a window.

Kermit tells the saddened Fozzie that he's heading for Hollywood to become a great actor and asks the bear to go along.

It's like WIZARD OF OZ all over again. But there is no Oz and the Emerald City is Hollywood, USA.

Driving in a 1951 Studebaker, Fozzie & Kermit sing songs and chat to pass the time as they head west.

"frog get it!"

Doc Hopper catches up to them and invites Kermit to star in a TV commercial for his fast-food chain but the frog declines the offer. He doesn't feel that he's suited to commercials about frog legs!

But Doc does not give up easily. If the frog won't do the commercial he will at least become the main course!

Fozzie's Studebaker moves along with danger at every curve. But the starstruck duo doesn't

That's Fozzie Bear in his great moment called "Laff, Cone, Laff."

seem to care, and press ever onward.

Out in the country, off the beaten-path, Kermit & Fozzie discover an abandoned church where loud music is pouring out. Stopping to investigate they find—

doc rock

Dr. Teeth & the Electric Mayhem!

The wildest rock band on Earth!

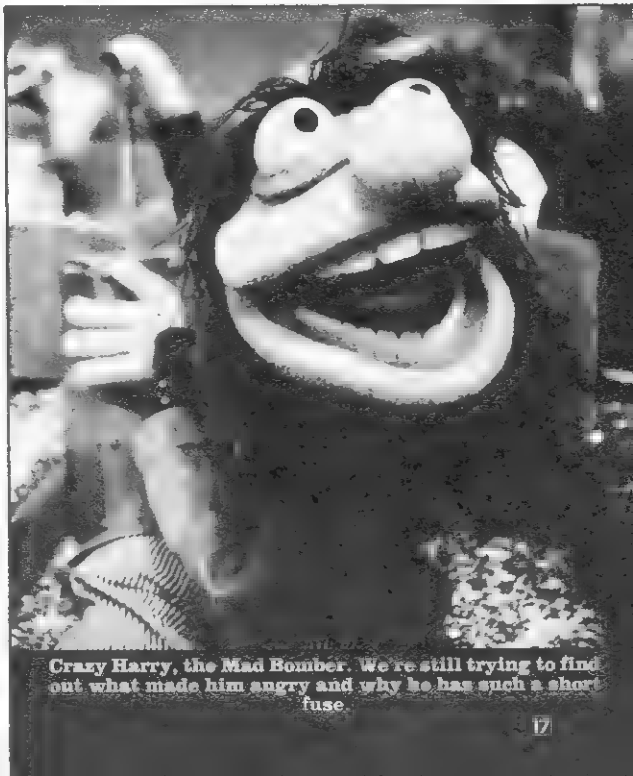
Dr. Teeth is playing the pipe organ with Floyd Pepper on electric bass, backed up by Zoot on the sax, Janice on guitar and the menacing Animal on drums.

Kermit tells them that they're heading for stardom and the band protects the frog from the ever-present Doc Hopper & Max. To throw the persistent frog-hunter off the track the rock group paints Fozzie's car in brilliantly odd colors.

As any great chase-film fan will tell you, the greatest chases on film have to do with cars. And when you have cars chasing each other there's bound to be a series of events that are absolutely beyond belief.

funcakes

Doc Hopper, sitting in the back seat of his limo and eating a stack of pancakes, shouting orders



Crazy Harry, the Mad Bomber. We're still trying to find out what made him angry and why he has such a short fuse.

Gonzo the Great (son of Garbanzo the Ingrate). He asked Camilla to be his chick . . . but she's chicken.

at Max driving, is in trouble with the syrup. It keeps spilling all over him. Angered, he hits Max with a pillow which burst and covers him with feathers.

Watching all this is the Great Gonzo, the plumber, driving his truck with the lovely Camilla the Chicken nestling at his side.

First the brightly-colored Studebaker streaks by, followed by the zig-zagging limo with an outraged Doc in the back seat covered with feathers. Gonzo is so intrigued by the sight that he crashes right into Fozzie's car!

car trek

The trek West is now picking up new people along the way. What started with Kermit taking a tip from a Hollywood agent has turned into a parade of characters heading for a single destination.

At a used car lot, Mad Man Mooney (played by Mr. Television himself, Milton Berle) sells the Muppets a new car: a 1947 Ford station wagon.

Mooney's assistant, Sweetums, wants to go along as well and runs after the crew on foot.

Finally, in the midwest, everybody's favorite lady appears:

porkly person

It's MISS PIGGY!

And she's just won the beauty contest.

Miss Piggy is lovestruck when she lays eyes on Kermit. The flip frog is less than enthused but agrees to take the pushy pig along to their destination.

Miss Piggy of course doesn't ask to go. In her own determined way she more or less insists!

Another series of events takes place which begins with ice cream.

ice scream

Gonzo buys a bunch of balloons from a super salesman and they lift him away. As he travels into the air, Kermit & the others leave their ice cream vendor (played by Bob Hope) and chase Gonzo in their car.

In the meantime, Doc is still chasing them in the limo when the Muppets' car smashes into a giant billboard advertising pastries & pies. A large chunk of pie flies into Doc's car. Doc's shotgun goes off and shoots down Gonzo's balloons, along with Gonzo! He falls safely onto the station wagon and they continue on their way.

Later, during dinner, Miss Piggy is called away for a phone call but never returns!

Kermit feels that he's been dumped and is sad & sorry. Rowlf the Dog tries to console him with a song on the piano.

come acropper by doc hopper!

But there's villiany afoot!

Miss Piggy has been pignapped by Doc Hopper!

Kermit is called with instructions on what to do if he wants to see Miss Piggy free again. He goes to the secret hideout where his piggy is tied up. There, the diabolical Prof. Krassman (Mel Brooks) is preparing to operate on Kermit. His specialty is frog brain surgery!

This is just too much for Miss Piggy to bear. She breaks free from her bonds and attacks with all the fury of a porkchop scorned! Using her famous Karate chops she downs every tough guy in the place and frees poor Kermit.

Heading for the audition in Hollywood, the car breaks down in the desert. All looks hopeless. If they don't make the deadline on time the trip will be for naught!

Then, a cloud of dust is seen moving in from the east.

yes, mayhem!

It's Dr. Teeth! The Muppets are saved!

Early the next morning the entire gang is packed into the Electric Mayhem bus and they're on their way.

But the repugnant Doc Hopper is close behind.

Max is disguised as a highway patrolman and warns Kermit that the Doc has hired a professional frog killer!

Kermit is tired of the game and decides to have a showdown with the Doc once & for all. The gang reaches a ghost town in the far west and stops for a rest. But there's something strange going on.

A couple of inventors have come up with a growth pill that Animal seems very interested in.

Left to right: Gonzo the Great, Floyd Pepper, Animal, Fozzie Bear, Miss Piggy & Kermit the Frog. Did you ever see such a cast of--characters?

aw, shoot!

But the time has come for the big shootout. Kermit must face Doc on the streets of the town. Kermit's friends surround him and won't let him face the danger alone, while on the other side Doc & his gang confront the Muppets.

The frog killer is leading them and he's ready for the kill! Just as all seems about to break into pandemonium, suddenly the top of one of the buildings bursts apart.

It's Animal! He's grown to monstrous proportions!

The killers run off half-scared out of their wits and Max & Doc decide to reform and go into a different business.

Finally the Muppets reach Hollywood and make their way into show business. The movie is all about their trials & tribulations along the way and there are lots of songs & fun.

The movie is ready and the gang gathers in the projection room to see the first screening. Just as the ending titles appear on the screen the picture is torn asunder by Sweetums, who has burst thru the silver screen. He's finally made it! At long last he's caught up with his friends.

The movie ends on a happy note. Cameo appearances by some of the biggest stars in filmdom help to make this a wonderful experience.

Can they ever return to the tranquility & security of their TV show? But with Muppet ingenuity and the help of Miss Piggy we're sure it will all pork out.

The Hideous Doglionbeast. He usually devours FAMOUS MONSTERS but here he's putting a little Variety in his reading matter.

END

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

18 candles

JULIA ADAMS
Oct. 17
BLACK LAGOON

JOSEPHINE HUTCHINSON
Oct. 9
SON OF FRANKENSTEIN

DRACULA, Luke Skywalker, Dracula's Daughter, Princess Leia, the Werewolf of London, the Bride of Frankenstein & a Dozen Others—in September and October we celebrate the Birthdays of these celebrities.

Of course Bela, Hull & Boles have gone to the Beyond but we can forward Birthday Wishes for you to Elsa Lanchester, Mark Hamill & Carrie Fisher. Just address them to the person's name c/o Nate L. Daye, 2495 Glendower Ave., Hollywood, CA 90027 and we'll do the rest—Free of Charge as an Exclusive Courtesy of FAMOUS MONSTERS. We wish we could forward cards to ALL the Birthday Folk but, alas & alack, we lack most of their addresses. If Gloria Holden or Yvonne De Carlo or Julia Adams or Charlton Heston or any of the Others would like us to re-mail Birthday Greetings to them nextime, they have only to let us know their whereabouts.

COLEEN GRAY
Oct. 23
THE LEECH WOMAN

BEVERLY GARLAND
Oct. 17
IT CONQUERED THE WORLD

CHARLTON HESTON
Oct. 4
THE OMEGA MAN

JOHN BOLES
Oct. 28
FRANKENSTEIN

YVONNE DE CARLO
Sept. 1
THE MUNSTERS

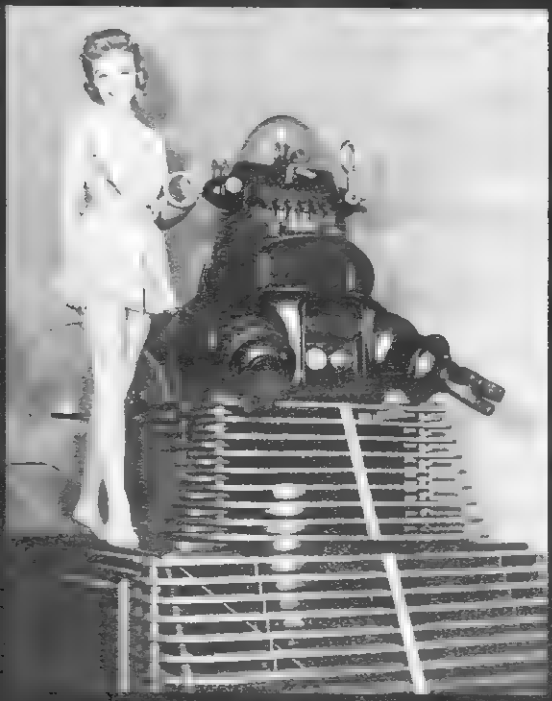
HENRY HULL
Oct. 3
WEREWOLF OF LONDON

HEATHER SEARS
Sept. 28
PHANTOM OF THE OPERA

GLYNIS JOHNS
Oct. 7
THE CABINET OF CALIGARI

BELA LUGOSI
Oct. 20
DRACULA

ELSA LANCHESTER
Oct. 28
THE BRIDE OF FRANKENSTEIN



ANNE FRANCIS
Sept. 16
FORBIDDEN PLANET

GLORIA HOLDEN
Sept. 3
DRACULA'S DAUGHTER

CARRIE HAMILL & MARK FISHER
[illegible] wanted to be sure you're awake and paying attention.
Carrie Fisher: Oct. 21 Mark Hamill: Sept. 25
STAR WARS & THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

WALTER PIDGEON
Sept. 23
FORBIDDEN PLANET

EARL HOLLIMAN
Sept. 11
FORBIDDEN PLANET

ALIEN VIE

WPOINTS

the experts speak their minds

A Close Encounter of the Worst Kind! can a gun-toting Ripley out maneuver the Alien in the film's final confrontation?

WHEN STAR WARS streaked across the screen you applauded when we brought you the opinions of some of the Biggies in the fanta-field. Some of their viewpoints you violently disagreed with, others you saw aye-to-aye. But however you felt about STAR WARS (and, later, CE3K) and whatever you made of the opinions of the Opinion Makers, you were anxious to read their thoughts.

So once again we have assembled for you a gaggle of reactions to the Movie of the Moment: ALIEN

Leading off, we hear from—

ERIK VON BUELOW

—whose models & monsters you've appreciated in *Trilogy of Terror,* FOOD OF THE GODS, and are looking forward to in Steven Spielberg's "1941"

It seems that these days many of the new sci-fi films give priority to special effex and not to the story. With ALIEN the technical superiority of the script, directing & acting was evident. However, the screenplay is sadly lacking in credibility.

For instance, the situations of the 7 persons involved are just too unreal. The characters come off as being just plain vulgar.

The impact of the shocking surprises is not carried out to the fullest. The development of the Alien, for example, is in stages and not too much is said about it or shown on screen.

Before my becoming a naturalized citizen of the US, I carried the standard Green Card ID. Immediately after the screening I looked up the word *alien* in the encyclopedia. I *was deeply shocked!* The meaning of the word "alien", to me, meant faithful friend, follower, an ally. This was totally different from the actual meaning I found: "Unsympathetic, strange, of another race; different, hostile, remote, conflicting." I thought it derived from the latin, as in Alliance. I think I should write to the Naturalization Service people to change this word which characterizes hopeful citizens of the USA!

As to the spaceship itself, I feel that the old sci-fi movies of the 30s, with the aerodynamic smooth lines, were much more logical than the complicated surfaces of today's space vehicles. Consider the tubing, antennae, boxes, hatches, plates, etc. The first meteoroid storm would probably shave off the trimmings and jam up communications or engines. Perhaps it would not be able to glide over the surface and might crashland.

The concept of large windows is also illogical. Scientifically, TV monitors would be used. Large windows look nice or

film but in actual use would be impractical.

All in all, the effex were very good with few exceptions. To the trained eye one could catch a squirt of blood going *on* the shirt of Kane, who is giving "birth" to the alien. The blood should have been coming from the body, not on it. Simple reverse photography would have done the trick.

Camera angles were very good. The subdued lighting was a good trick, adding to the mood of mystery & despair. The hanging chains were a good touch as well.

There were plenty of things I liked very much. Blending the music with the sound effex was a good idea. And I have a deep respect for the effort that went into the making of this film. The music in some places was excellent!

STAR WARS & CLOSE ENCOUNTERS will still be running the field as other fims attempt to copy & exploit them giving way to tanks & ships & various model kits being turned into "alien" spacecraft. Even the wreck on the surface was a combination of organic & mechanic substance which reminded me of a rebuilding of the STAR TREK ship.

Final comment: It was definitely good to see this movie.

* * * * *

RON WAITE

—a 21-year veteran of FM and now our Assistant Editor has plenty to say about ALIEN.

Ever since I saw the movie I've been racking my brain trying to figure out if I liked it or hated it!

In all the years I've been seeing such films I have never been so involved, so mentally drained & upset. The tension never stops and for 2 hours you are on the edge of your seat living a nightmare!

ALIEN in my mind stands for 5 things—and "things" is an appropriate word here!

ANDROMEDA STRAIN
LOVECRAFT
IT!—THE TERROR FROM BEYOND SPACE
EXORCIST
NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD

Put them all together and you spell *ALIEN*.

When horror writer HPLovecraft wrote his tales of terror he never elaborated on the description of his demons. He left it to the imagination of the reader, who could conjure up in their own mind nightmarish images which Lovecraft could never describe.

So it is with ALIEN.

ANDROMEDA STRAIN brought us a deadly virus that killed instantly. A group of scientists were hard pressed to come up with a solution to the menace.

IT!—THE TERROR FROM BEYOND SPACE, a film very similar to ALIEN, was a monster from Mars who took refuge in the air vents of the giant spaceship. One by one the crew was being killed off and you never knew where the creature would strike next. Also the case with the ALIEN. It, too, hid in the maze of tunnels in the *Nostromo*, striking at will.

THE EXORCIST, of course, was the demonic possession of an innocent girl and the resulting murder & mayhem which followed. Gruesome & graphically brought to the screen, we saw shades of EXORCIST in ALIEN when Ash explodes and falls to pieces. He spouts a yellowish fluid and later a white, milky substance oozes from his mouth.

And George Romero's NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD presented zombies who feasted on the bodies of the living. Only difference here was the ALIEN was alive.

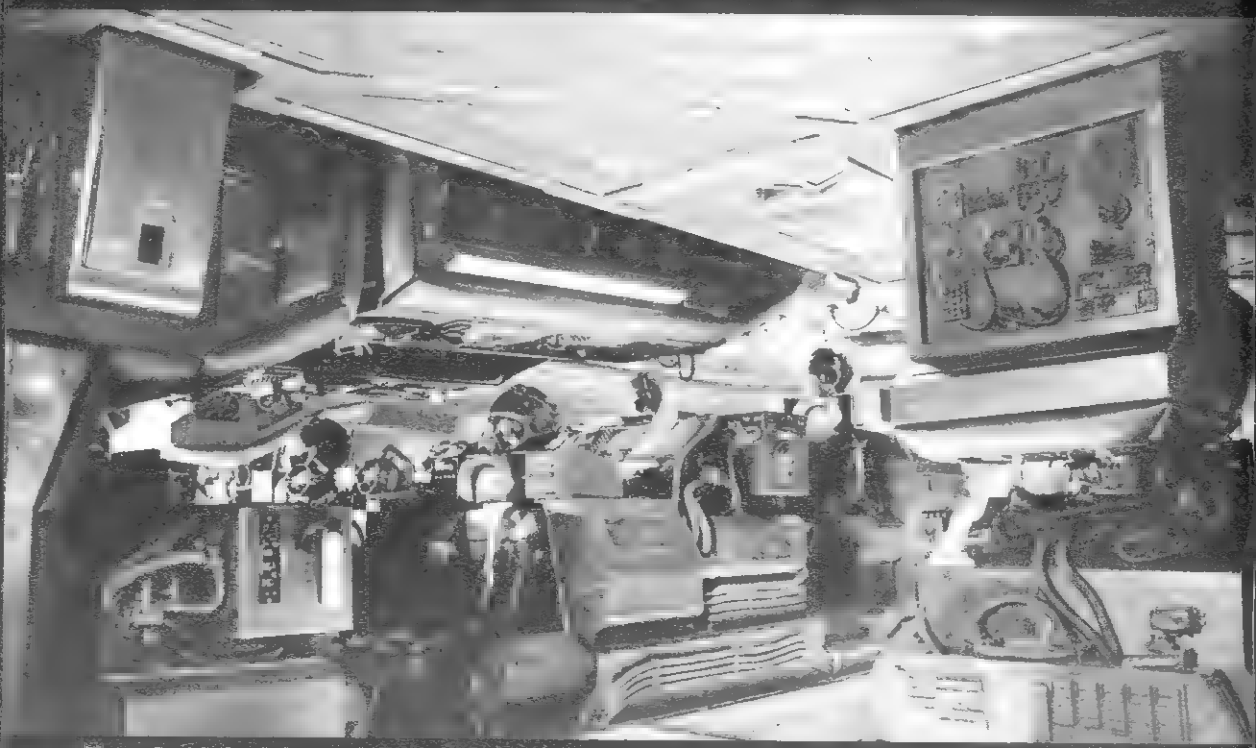
I could also say that ALIEN is:

*A*LARMING!
*L*EGENDARY!
*I*NEXORABLE!
*E*XCITING!
*N*IGHTMARISH!

And it's all true.

When the 7 weary space travelers awake to find that they are still 10 months from Earth and on their way to an alien planet in answer to a distress call, they are less than pleased.

The huge planet, Saturn-like in its appearance, is surrounded by a number of moons, one of which the shuttle lands on.



The gadget-laden bridge of the commercial starship Nostromo, whose computer knows the dread secret of the Alien.

Responding to a mysterious transmission, the crew of the Nostromo lands on the stormy surface of a strange planetoid.

There they find the remains of a gargantuan alien seated behind a huge gun. Its body is fossilized, its chest ripped open from within!

The ancient spacecraft is massive. The entire sight is something to see! Nothing like it has ever been seen by anyone on this planet.

One of the astronauts discovers a cavern full of otherworldly eggs and moves in for a closer look.

This is his fatal mistake!

The shell cracks open and a tannish, pulsating mass slashes thru the putrid air and attaches itself to his helmet!

Back aboard the shuttle, Ash & Dallas attempt to remove the creature but its grip is too strong. To make matters worse, when they do cut one of the appendages, its yellow *blood* is like acid, burning thru 2 decks of the ship!

Inexplicably, the creature disappears! All is well until dinner when the creature literally rips from Kane's chest! Blood & gore fill the room and the remaining 6 know they're in Big Trouble.

A search is on to find the thing, using sophisticated electronic scanning devices. Tension mounts until it's unbearable. In one shocking scene it's not the alien that's caught but the cat belonging to the woman Ripley.

Brett finds the thing next, much to his dismay, while searching for the feline named Jones. He turns around and comes face to face with . . .

THE ALIEN!

It's now grown tremendously, slightly larger than a man.

The crew is terrified. They are alone in deep space. No one to help them. No way to fight the thing.

Another search is organized and this time Dallas is inside the airshafts, armed with a fire-spitting rifle & a bright light. The creature is being tracked on computer scan and communication is open between Dallas & the others.

"Face it Ash!" says Dallas, "the Alien's got a crush on our Executive Officer."

A pre-production painting by Chris Foss showing the mobile, planetoid-based refinery used to mine distant worlds.

Lambert knows the thing is near but can't quite pinpoint it. Dallas is in the third shaft, practically bathed in total darkness save for the beam of light from his lantern.

"I can't see it!" he cries. "I'm getting out of here!"

Lambert warns him to watch out. It's very close. Dallas turns to look in the other tunnel—and the thing is sitting there!

Now Parker is really upset. Dallas is gone. Nothing left but his rifle. The alien has to be stopped at all cost! Tempers flare & patience is nowhere. The tension still mounts.

Ripley enters the computer room to try to find an answer but is interrupted by Ash. For no apparent reason he attacks her!

She is thrown against the control panel, [illegible] around like a rag doll. Ash has gone berserk!

Parker & Lambert come to the rescue, bashing the crazed science officer with a pipe, knocking his head off!

We are stunned to see that, like a decapitated chicken, the crazed Ash is still swinging & attacking, even with his head dangling to one side. He's finally stopped after spewing the flaxen ichor all over the computer room. When questioned by Ripley he can only say that the humans aboard are expendable. Parker, in a rage, incinerates what's left of him with his fire rifle.

It's decided to blow up the ship and get away in the shuttle. Lambert & Parker set up the explosives while Ripley prepares the other craft.

Several minutes later she hears screams.

Rushing back to the core of the freighter ship she finds the remains of her companions savagely murdered by the alien!

In panic now, she sets off the computer-controlled explosion which will take place in 10 minutes.

10 minutes and counting!

Destruct signal cannot be aborted [illegible]

9 minutes and counting.

8

7

Ripley is about to enter the shuttle but the alien is blocking the way! She has to return to the main ship and stop the self-destruct.

6

Reset the dials, change the systems.

5

It's too late! The ship will explode in [illegible] minutes!

Her only chance is to make it back to the shuttle. The alien is nowhere in sight. Time is running out. Only seconds to blast time.

The tiny ship is barely out of range when the giant mother ship explodes in a pyrotechnical coruscation that illumines the black void of space like an atomic pancake.

"I've won!" cries Ripley.

Suddenly, a slimy hand [illegible] control panel.

The alien is *on board!*

Ripley backs up and hides behind the hanging spacesuits. The thing is restless, its dreadful jaws gaping, deadly teeth dripping a viscous venom from its terrifying throat.

But it plays a waiting game for it knows there is nowhere for its victim to escape.

Breathlessly Ripley gets into one of the spacesuits and locks herself into the contour chair. Slowly she changes the environment within the ship. The creature reacts with shrieks and attempts to attack her.

She flings open the hatch and the suction rips the being into space. But it hangs on with one claw, not yet ready to give up.

When the film was over, people in my audience applauded & cheered. They had been released from the Alien's grip!

In my 30 years of enjoying such movies I have never seen such reaction.

Not with the EXORCIST.

Not with PHANTASM.

Not even with NIGHT OF THE LIVING DEAD!

I saw several people leave the theater and just as many run from the place, sick to their stomachs. Viewers were literally jumping in their seats, screaming aloud, covering the eyes & ears.

I remember seeing the Martians in WAR OF THE WORLDS when I was younger and it scared me quite a bit. I recall being afraid of the witch in WIZARD OF OZ, the horrid goings-on in THE TINGLER and the frightful HOUSE ON HAUNTED HILL.

But this reporter had [illegible] to be [illegible]

he saw a movie that's sure to become a modern classic.

ALIEN, here at last, will last!

* * *

Something Wicked This Way Comes and lo! it's The Martian Chronicler Himself

RAY BRADBURY

—the Word Wizard of Fantasy, noted for his alien viewpoints. He says:

A superb film by a new young director who will go very far in the next few years.

The film was somewhat overwhelming at times but the end result was one of total involvement—I felt convinced I was present in the Future at an event from which I could not escape. I believed in what I saw and felt.

The look of the film is incredible.

The horror of it is memorable.

It is probably not everyone's Cosmic Cup of Strange Tea but it will be around for a long while.

The test is: do you want to see it again?

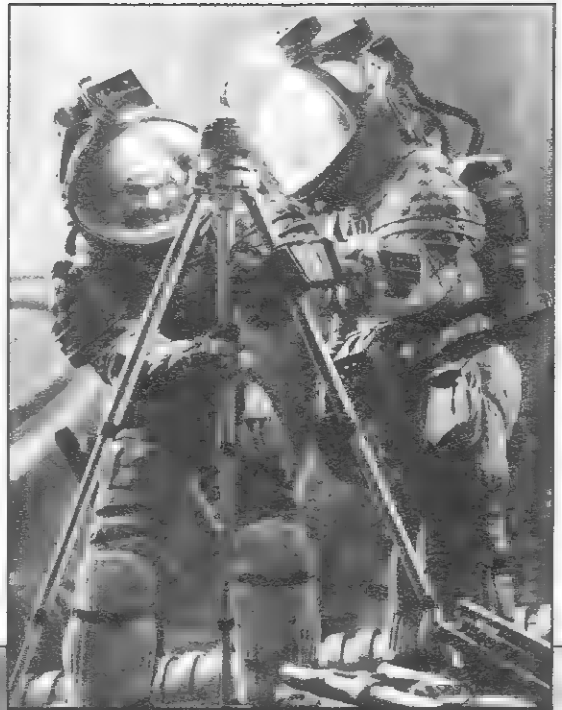
I do.

* * *

NORBERT F. NOVOTNY

—FM's Brazilian Correspondent:

I have been a Science Fiction & Fantasy-in-General buff for many years now but absolutely nothing ever scared me as much as did ALIEN. I was absolutely petrified by the combination of ALL the horror ingredients put together by Director Ridley Scott, i.e., beginning with LOTS of money, a



Captain Dallas and Kane prepare the tripod which will lower the Executive Officer into the Alien's breeding ground.

Lambert, Dallas & Kane enter the huge derelict spaceship on their way to a rendezvous with a deadly newborn Alien.

very good crew of SFX technicians, the fantastically gruesome but hypnotizing scenery by H.R. Giger and at last but not least the Screenplay & Story Dan O'Bannon & Ronald Shusett supposedly created.

Yes, I meant *supposedly* because sci-fi writer A.E. van Vogt was never mentioned in ANYTHING related to the film, such as a pressbook or souvenir book or article.

Being a sci-fi buff I just happened to remember that back in 1939 *Astounding Science-Fiction* published in its December issue a novelet called "Discord in Scarlet" which has, as anyone can see, practically *everything* there was in ALIEN. If you'd like to investigate, compare the story written by van Vogt back in 1939 and the screenplay created by O'Bannon & Shusett. Well, since you are reading this anyway, let me introduce you to what I found out:

A.E. van Vogt's story begins with a living creature floating in outer space in search of life to procreate. A Terran vessel comes by with a crew of many people *and a cat*. A WOMAN TAKES CARE OF THAT CAT. The alien by van Vogt is utterly unkillable, has an armored skin and is seeking transportation to rule the new Universe as it did in an old one. It gets the humans in order to use them as "guula", which in alien language means "nest". Specifically, the nest of the alien's eggs are the humans' stomachs. You see, I'm not speaking of the film, I'm speaking of sf writer A.E. van Vogt's story. And it goes on like this: Van Vogt's alien moves thru walls, metallic walls by rearranging their molecular structure, to pursue its human prey while in the movie the creature is cut by the medics and its blood drips to the floor and stops only a few levels below like boiling oil dropped on frozen butter. In van Vogt's story the alien deposits its eggs inside a human's stomach so that when it grows large enough it will eat its way out, feeding on the human's insides. Now take for instance this part of the story published in 1939 and see if it makes you think about something that you saw in some movie (I won't tell you WHAT movie):

. . . an ugly, round, scarlet head with tiny, beady eyes and a gray slit of a mouth poked out. The head twisted on its short neck, and the eyes glittered up at them with a hard ferocity.

And then, with a swiftness that almost took them by surprise, it reared up. . . . (In the movie it slides away).

And there is another small similarity: the physician is German. Sure there *are* some differences in both the film & the story by van Vogt, like for instance the alien portrayed in *Astounding* has 4 arms, is red, moves thru the walls fast. Well, actually, anyone who wants to create a NEW story HAS to make SOME changes.

So, if you take the 2 stories, the one in the movie by DAN O'BANNON & RONALD SHUSETT and make a general comparison with the story by A.E. van Vogt which is also in print in the pocketbook VOYAGE OF THE SPACE BEAGLE, you get:

AN ALIEN IN OUTER SPACE OVERTAKES HUMANS IN A PASSING VESSEL. A SHIP WITH A VARIED CREW OF BOTH SEXES & A CAT. AN ALIEN THAT FEEDS ON HUMAN FLESH, DEPOSITING ITS EGGS IN THE HUMANS' STOMACHS. A GERMAN DOCTOR. AND IN THE END THE CREW LEAVES THE ALIEN, GETTING AWAY ON SHUTTLES.

(Shades of the STAR WARS controversy: "It's OZ! It's FLASH GORDON! Hey, that's from DUNE!" However, I think Novotny's Brazilian background has led him astray on one minor point: Korita is not a woman's name, suggestive of something like Dearie, but the name of a Japanese man; and the "pussy" referred to in "Discord in Scarlet" was not a cat, if I recall correctly, but Coeurl, from the previous story "Black Destroyer", a huge catlike creature of incredible ferocity that would scarcely be a pet aboard a human spaceship! However, Novotny is not the only one who feels ALIEN has done a bit of borrowing from the Master Mind of Science Fiction.—Editor)

* * *

WILLIAM B. ELLERN

—Author of the "Doc" Smith-inspired Nick Lensman series

IT WAS GREAT!!

My wife & I walked into the showing completely cold. The only information on the movie we had seen was the sign board out front of the studio, a standard billboard. We had stopped for coffee before the show because my wife felt sleepy and didn't want to fall asleep during the show. We need not have bothered.

I'll tell you frankly that I don't like to be scared. That's why I don't normally go to horror movies or ride on roller coasters—unless someone asks me to. Almost half way thru the film I was sitting there with the same feeling you get after going over the first big dip of a rollercoaster. You know in your stomach what the rest of the ride is going to be like and you're hanging on trying to endure your way thru to the end. On a rollercoasters you can't get off. In a movie theater you can always cut & run. I was seriously considering doing just that.

I looked around. My wife was slouched down in her seat with her hands over her ears. Her eyes were as large as saucers. The other people around me weren't in much better shape. Slouching down in your seat helps. I endured it. Wheehawken!

Most so-called horror movies confuse frightening people with just being gross. This one didn't. Others spend a lot of time talking. This one didn't. It didn't spend any time with blood & gore or excessive explanation, it just went for the throat and kept at it.

I came away from the movie glad to have lasted thru it. It's quite an experience. And not remembering what the Alien itself looked like. About the only thing I could really tell anyone about it was "It sure had a lot of teeth, alright."

The next day I bought a bunch of 20th Century-Fox FC stock. I figured that they had a real winner on their hands and I believe in putting my money where my mouth is. ALIEN won't do the same thing to 20th Century-Fox that STAR WARS did (the stock jumped from $7 to $40 a share) because the money from STAR WARS made them a lot larger. But it will bring in close to the same amount of green stuff and by then STAR WARS II will be out.

So far it looks like I'm right.

The kids have been bugging me to let them see a horror movie ever since I refused to let them see JAWS three years ago. I took them to see ALIEN on Memorial Day. The lines were a block long. I haven't heard a word out of them since. I got a good look at the Alien this time (I wasn't in shock when it came on the screen). Boy, it has a lot of teeth.

* * *

ROBERT JOHN THARP

—Quality Assurance Supervisor of the far-famed Don Post Studios:

It was into the early afternoon on a warm Hollywood day. John Naulin & I were in the studio lab, debating which color blood was preferable for the new Don Post Studios makeup kits.

The door to the laboratory slammed open. Don Post stood in the doorway, blue eyes flashing excitement.

John & I looked at Don expectantly.

"Well?" John asked.

"ALIEN!" Don Post said. "It will [illegible] your future!"

"Then ALIEN is good enough for the people to get involved with?"

"ALIEN deserves the best and that's exactly what we're going to give it. The sets, the spaceship, the music, the suspense, and best of all . . ."

Don leaned forward. "The Alien!"

"What's the Alien like?" we asked. "What does it look like?"

"It doesn't look like anything I've ever seen before. The Alien is possibly the most unique creature in films yet."

John and I grew more excited. "Tell us about the story!"

Don shook his head. "I could tell you but I want you both to be as swept away as I was. Take it from me, gentlemen, for blood-freezing science fiction. There's *nothing* like ALIEN!"

John beamed. "That sounds good. Now, what's the plan?"

Don spoke firmly. "The plan is this. We are going to work hand-in-glove with 20th Century-Fox Studios. We are going to duplicate the Alien down to the number of slime droplets on its body. We have got the best in the business for this pro-

"Here, kitty, kitty!" But neither man nor monster is about to catch that cat Jones napping.

ject. We're going to devote our energies to doing ALIEN to perfection!"

"Like our NOSFERATU?" I asked.

"Yes, like NOSFERATU."

When Don said that, I was concerned for a moment. Equalling Nosferatu wasn't going to be easy. I remembered the painstaking effort involved with it. Don read my thoughts by my expression and smiled. "Rob, the Nosferatu was the best single item this studio hs ever made for the public. But, you know our way—the studio either equals its successes or it surpasses them. Believe me, by the time this project is over the Alien we present for the collectors will have no peers in artistry & quality."

John Naulin nodded. "So when do we start on this project?"

"We already have."

This conversation took place after Don Post attended a secret preview of ALIEN in early May.

Literally under lock & key at 20th Century-Fox's Studio, the top talents in the industry are hard at work again for Don Post. Each day brings them closer to fulfilling Don's demands for perfection.

Everyone who knows anything about this scheme is anxiously awaiting the project's completion.

But everyone will have to be patient. The Don Post Alien will break loose when it's absolutely perfect, and not before.

Rest assured, the wait is unquestionably time well spent. The Don Post Alien will be the finest item the studio has made in its near half-century history.

You have the word of Post on that.

* * *

ROSS-Our Man About Hollyweird and active filmonster buff, shares some fascinating inside info with us:

Something moves in the darkness.

Ripley spins, turns her lights toward the movement.

Hanging from the ceiling is a huge cocoon. The body of Dallas inside.

COCOON?

Where? When?

Well, as the story goes, if the higher-ups at 20th hadn't had their way, you would have seen it. Strangely enough, prior to the first (studio) screening in LA, I'd spoken to Ronald Shusett (a co-writer & the producer) and he too wondered if 20th would leave the scene intact. As a matter of fact at that same LA screening he was not invited. 20th would fly the principal writer & some technicians to a public sneak preview out of state in order to see the audience reaction.

Well, as it happened (allegedly), the people screamed, were sickened or left the theater. So in came the scissors and bits & scenes thought too graphic were snipped. Still sticking with an R rating, due to a stomach-wrenching scene key to the film, 20th played it safe.

When I spoke to Dan O'Bannon at a later sneak preview his commentary on the editing was one of very escapist nature. "You should have seen the more graphic version," he said. But he defended cuts too, saying 20th chopped for length.

What scene went? First, if you remember Parker & Lambert being attacked near the end, recall the alien's tail slowly rising between her booted legs; well, earlier in the film, when Brett was the first attacked, that same tail, with its knife-edged point, rose between his legs and drove its end into his spine, killing him and pushing his body forward. Why they allowed the suggestion of this without completion during the film puzzled me and why her body was unclothed when Ripley came upon the corpses lacked explanation.

As for the cocoon, during the earlier portion of the film, after the deaths of Brett & Dallas, Parker loudly questions where the bodies are etc. Near the end, during Ripley's frantic rushabout, she stumbled onto the place where the alien made its nest. In it, hanging from the ceiling, are cocoons, one weblike & transparent, one dark, stone-gray like the alien egg. Inside the web is Dallas, seemingly dead, maggots eating thru his face—and suddenly his eyes flair, scaring Ripley. His voice almost inaudibly weeps for mercy. "Kill me! Please . . . kill me!" She raises her flame-thrower and blasts the chamber into an inferno.

Some scenes were shot of the alien closeup, of it folded like a weird-looking box, but it was decided this would give us too graphic a look at the beastie, so snip! snip!! snip!!!

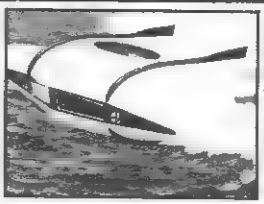
Finally, returning to Lambert & Parker's murders, when we see the result of the creature's attack we notice that her bare legs are hung midair but we are not shown why. Well, the alien came thru the airshaft; that's where it shoved the body. This footage & more exists and the Good Word is that ALIEN might be re-released later on with the X-rated footage included for the strong of stomach & spine who have survived the R-rated version and want to go All The Way with ALIEN!

END

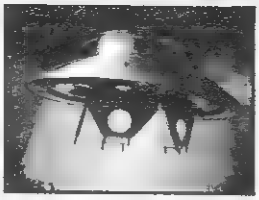
STAR TREK sleeping bag

Star Trek sleeping bag is a terrific way to get into Star Trek & your own star studded dreamland! A go anywhere bag with reversible pull tabs, separating zippers, full of fluffy synthetic fiber- fill for warmth without weight! Comes with drawstring see thru vinyl tote bag & color action scenes of Star Trek series! #26057/$23.95

NEW! AMAZING SCI-FI MODELS



FLYING SUB From Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea comes this super incredible model molded at 1/60 scale in bright yellow and black, 7½" wing span, display base and has a removable top showing detailed interior! #24239/$3.50



THE UFO From the famous science fiction TV show The Invaders! This 7" in diameter model is molded in easy to snap together plastic, comes with extendible landing gear, alien terrain base & seven figures! #24240/$3.50

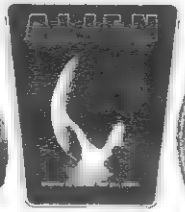
NEW! ALIEN NEW!

ALIEN RECORD!

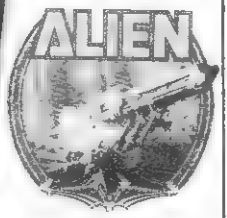
Twentieth Century-Fox presents the soundtrack of Alien composed by Academy Award winner Gerry Goldsmith! This is a masterpiece film score of incredible power and intensity! Relive each horrifying moment of Alien's original music! #23002/$7.98

ALIEN IRON-ONS

ALIEN SPACE SHIP IRON-ON #26186/$1.25



ALIEN EGG IRON-ON #26184/$1.25



ALIEN SPACE JOCKEY IRON-ON #26185/$1.25

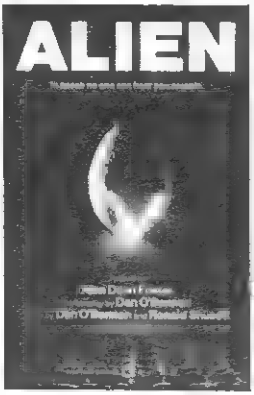
ALIEN CHASE TARGET SET

ALIEN CHASE TARGET SET From Alien, the movie, a huge 33" tall outline target of the alien, astrogun that shoots 3 harmless plastic balls & ringing bell for scoring! #26148/$5.95

ALIEN BLASTER TARGET SET

ALIEN BLASTER AND TARGET SET Comes with self standing target, 3 weird flop targets, astrogun shoots plastic suction tipped darts. Target 12"x18¾"! #26149/$12.95

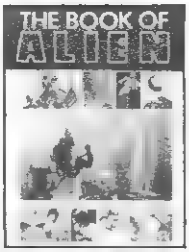
ALIEN PAPERBACK



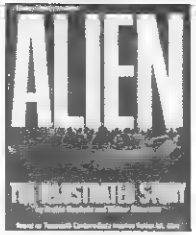
ALIEN PAPERBACK Alan Dean Foster novelizes the movie! In the depths of space the crew of the Nostromo encounters an awesome galactic horror. The real horror begins when they meet the alien within! #21381/$2.25

THE BOOK OF ALIEN:

THE BOOK OF ALIEN Here are the designs, sketches and blueprints rendered by four of the top fantasy illustrators in the western world: Moebius, Chris Foss, Ron Cobb and H.R. Giger! And there are interviews with the Art Directors, Costume Designers, Producers, Directors and Screenwriters. A 96 page softcover with 50 in full color! #21376/$7.95



ALIEN: THE ILLUSTRATED STORY



ALIEN: THE ILLUSTRATED STORY Walt Simonson and Archie Goodwin have teamed up to bring you Alien in full color, vibrant illustrations! A story not to be imagined in your wildest dreams or nightmares! Relive the movie through Walt Simonson's superb illustrations and Archie Goodwin's taut style! #21377/$3.95

To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.

MYSTERY PHOTO

HE IS ABSOLUTELY AP-PAUL-ING

#119 IS IT THE MAD DOCTOR OF MARKET STREET? THE FACE BEHIND THE MUSK?

THE ABOMINABLE DR. HIVES?

He'll never win a beauty contest! And why is he choking this girl? Maybe she didn't care for his type of music. If only Lon Chaney could see this! One thing is certain: Rock & Roll was never like this. Looks like too many rocks hit this guy! Unscramble the clue below and you'll have the name of the movie this man was in.

O THE PRIDE OF A PHANTASM

ANSWER

MYSTERY PHOTO No.118

They were the ZOMBIES OF MORA TAU. Among those who correctly identified earlier Mystery Photo (#116) as THE BLACK SLEEP were JOE SMITH JR., ROBIN KIRBY, LESLIE KLIEBERT, PARKER ANDERSON, STEVEN SCHLINGLOF, RAY BOYCE JR., JAY BLAYLOCK, RAYMOND DIECIDUE, DEENA LOTT, TOM KNOWLTON, WM. MIKALIK, SHAWN SHERIDAN, THOS. ANTONIELLO, JEFF PFEIFFER, TIMOTHY ENGEL, GEOF O'KEEFE, JEROME MURPHY, KEN WILCOX, MARK BERGER, JOHN D. MURPHY, STEVE FLECK, STEVE MARTIN, JOHN JENSEN, JEFF GRACZYK, STUART CRENSHAW, RICHARD MATCHAM, DOUGLAS RUSO JR., JOHN HELTON, WM. VAN VOLKENBURG & ROBIN ST. JAMES.

TIME AFTER TIME

the shape of things uncalm

JACK THE RIPPER meets HGWells—?! Sounds like a brainstorm (or a painstorm) that came to Robert Bloch in a nightmare after he bolted down a spicy Mexican meal topped off by a not fudge sundae & a tootie-frowzy phosphate! A meal that he bolted down . . . but the rivets came loose.

Anyway, we gotta admit it's a riveting idea for a farout film.

HGWells, alive & well in 1979!

Jack the Ripper, alive and . . . well —! in 1979.

What a premise for a sci-fi chase film!

no ripoff

An original idea, if there ever was one.

Wells himself, of course, was famous for them.

—Speeded up evolution, producing "manimals" in "The Island of Dr. Moreau" (twice filmed).

—THE INVISIBLE MAN (immortalizing Claude Rains).

—WAR OF THE WORLDS (immortalizing Orson Wells & George Pal).

—And, of course, "The Time Machine" itself!

prior to the plot

In Geo. Pal's cinemadaptation of Well's chronportation classic a man had invented a machine capable of carrying him thru time.

Into the future or into the past!

Leaving turn-of-century London, the Time Traveler finds that life in the 20th Century isn't what it's cracked up to be. He finds war & famine, destruction all around. And in a great war in the latter part of the 20th Century the Time Traveler finds that "civilization" was not satisfied to destroy itself with chemical bombs & guns, now there's atomic power!

As he stands there, confused & alone, he sees people flee in panic & terror. He is warned to take cover, to protect himself. But he cannot comprehend what is about to take place.

Suddenly there's a tremendous explosion!

An atomic bomb has dropped somewhere in England.

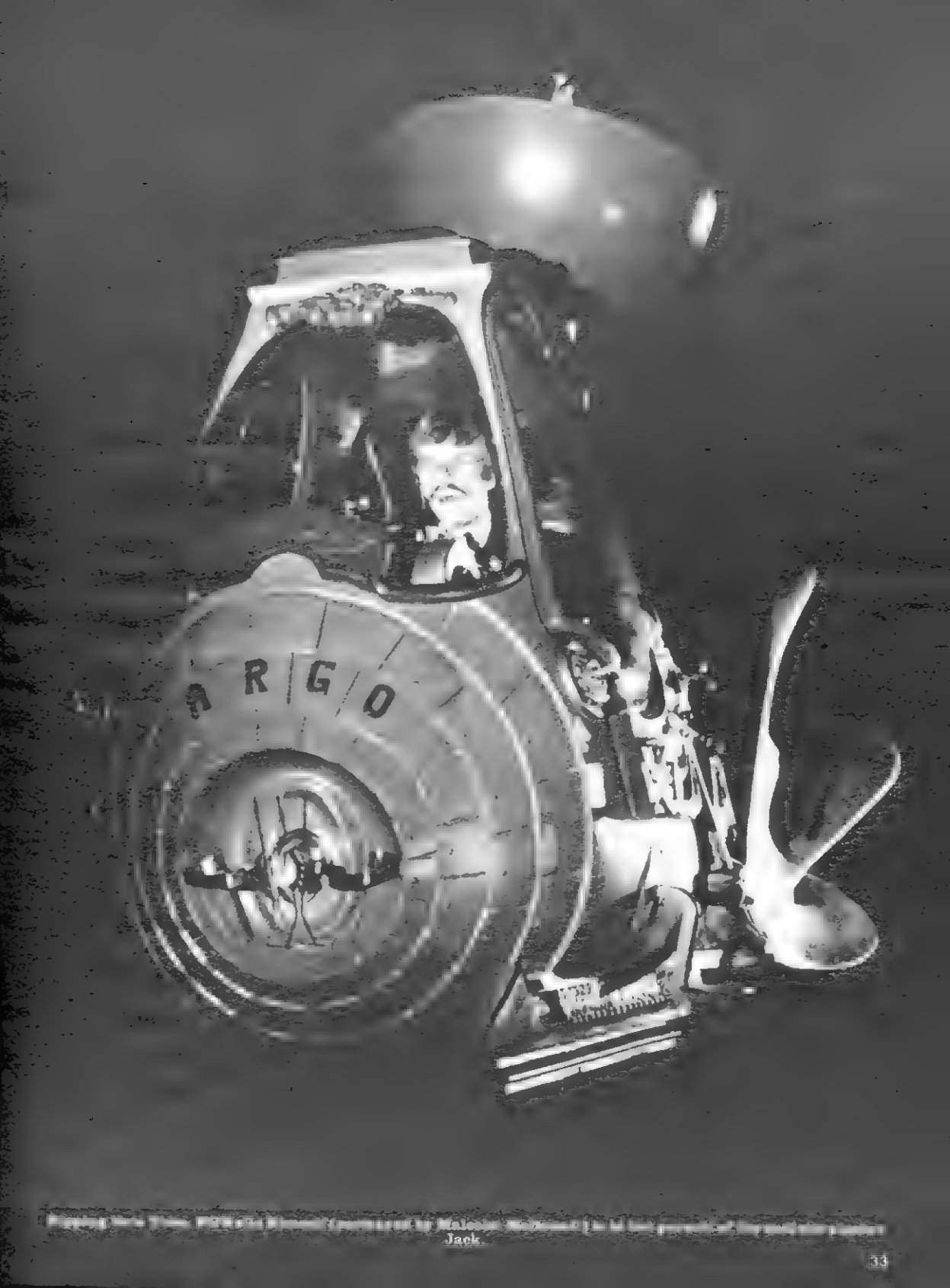
The Time Traveler is smart enough to know it's time to take off! And hopping into the machine he rushes thousands of years into the future.

More than 800,000 years later the weary traveler discovers that the future is not that great either.

A meek & mild people called Eloi inhabit a tranquil land, happy & singing by day, terrified by night.

The object of their fears is a race of cannibalistic creatures called Morlocks. It seems that in this far-distant era man has separated into 2 species, one peaceful, the other terribly onimous & evil. The Morlocks *raise* the Eloi like cattle, to use as food! And the Eloi eat nothing but fruits & vegetables, their life & outlook drab & hopeless.

Wells' prophecy of the future may or may not prove true. If humanity survives another 800,000 years perhaps we'll know for sure. His imagina-



Flying Saucer Times, [illegible] (produced by Malcolm [illegible]) in [illegible] of [illegible] Jack.

tion has graced many a page and his works have been turned into feature movies & TV productions.

Now Warner Bros. brings Wells to us in 1979 in a way that the great master would approve. They replace the Time Traveler with Wells himself! The result is fantastic.

starting time

TIME AFTER TIME takes us thru time in a most fascinating way. We begin our journey in old London circa 1893.

We meet a young inventor named HGWells who is about to tell the world of his latest invention.

A Time Machine! Not a mere watch or clock.

No sophisticated mathematical astronomer's timepiece. No.

A machine that can *move* thru time!

Not as a car moves thru air, or a plane soars thru the sky. While each has movement, a car gliding over the road cutting thru the air and a plane gliding thru the clouds, each is fixed in its proper time zone, its own dimension.

Moving thru *time* is quite a different thing.

And young Wells has perfected a way to do just that!

The Machine is situated in his home where he is about to show it to several close friends. One of those in attendance is the brilliant Dr. Stevenson (David Warner).

Wells shows off his work, a glistening machine of unusual nature. His colleagues are both bewildered & amused; their interest high. While Wells discusses the uses of his creation his jubiliation is disrupted by a knock at the door.

"Excuse the intrusion, sir!" says the policeman outside Wells' door.

It seems that Jack the Ripper has claimed another victim and the police are conducting a thorough investigation, a house-to-house search. Wells, having nothing to hide, invites them in.

He shows them around the house, introduces them to his guests and makes idle chatter. All is fine until they search Dr. Stevenson's little black bag.

There, beneath the tools of his trade, the police inspector finds a pair of bloody gloves & a scalpel!

Convinced they have found their killer they turn to arrest Dr. Stevenson but he has slipped away. Wells is horrified. He cannot believe that his best friend could do such a thing.

Worse yet, Stevenson has taken the Time Machine!

time flies

Time may exist and each of us travels thru it every day of our lives. But Time is not fixed and is prone to change. We're all familiar with Time Warps & Time Ripples. Whatever we choose to call them Time has way of doing strange things. Dr. Stevenson moves into the future to a time & place he had never dreamed of — San Francisco, USA, in 1979!

Back in London, Wells is upset.

He feels personally responsible for permitting this maniacal killer to escape into the future. His vision of 1979 is a Utopia, where man lives in peace & harmony. The elements have been tamed, there's abundant food & energy. Color & religion don't count. If that were true, sending a demented killer into such a society *would* be a terrible thing to do!

So Wells vows to find Stevenson and end his future reign of terror. In his mind such a beautiful future cannot be destroyed by so evil & irresponsible a fiend.

As the story develops, several other subplots surface. Wells does find Stevenson and he also finds true love in the 20th Century. A young girl named Amy Robbins, who happens to be an employee with the Bank of London, falls in love with Wells and helps him find Dr. Stevenson.

The plot of TIME AFTER TIME is complex yet interesting & topical. The movie is certainly sci-fi but is laced with comedy, romance & social commentary on modern times. At times it's a downright thriller as Wells chases his foe thru modern San Francisco.

where's the brave new world?

There is no Utopia, of course, and Wells has plenty to say about that. He finds that things aren't better in 1979 but as he puts it, "They *are* more efficient."

The Time Machine used in the film is quite impressive. It's made mostly of fiberglass on metal framework and the machine itself uses Solar Power!

Sound fantastic?

Not really. Back in 1882 a French inventor & engineer named Abel Pifre created something quite startling for its day.

—A solar-powered printing press!

So Wells' Time Machine utilizes the power of the sun to move about thru time. It certainly adds realism to the production and saves on fuel bills!

Much of the filming was done in and around San Francisco where another sci-fi thriller was made, INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS. For this new movie locations were used such as Ghiradelli Square, The Goldern Gate Park, The Marina, Muir Woods & other famous landmarks.

There's a unique feature about this new Time Machine. Much like the one used in George Pal's film of 1960, the Machine relies on a very special rod or key for it to function properly. In the new version, if the key is removed, whoever is sitting in the machine simply ceases to exist and finds themselves in a state of limbo. That is the fate of Dr. Stevenson who attempts to escape in the Machine. Wells pulls the key just in time (so to speak) and the doctor is dematerialized and sent into a nether-void.

Right, Nicholas Meyers, author & director of the film, contemplates the time machine Argo in the company of the film's star.

behind the scenes

The production crew & actors on TIME AFTER TIME are first rate.

Herb Jaffe produced the film after seeing Nicholas Meyer's script. He felt that it has all the essential qualities of a great film. Jaffe was responsible for DEMON SEED with Julie Christie.

Nicholas Meyer directed the film based on his own screenplay. While this was his first film, he has written several high-powered novels including "The 7% Solution", a Sherlock Holmes story. Working on TV he did the screenplay for *The Night That Panicked America,* based on the Orson Wells radio broadcast of 1938. For those not familiar with the details, Orson Wells & his Mercury Theater group put on a live show from New York. They did their version of HGWells' classic "The War of the Worlds", only they moved the location to modern times. Radio audiences in 1938 believed that the Martians were landing in New Jersey! The show was that convincing. (For vivid re-creating of that memorable night see FM 149).

The Time Machine for this movie was built under the supervision of Edward Carfagno. If that name doesn't sound familiar maybe this will jar your memory:

Edward won 2 Academy Awards for his work

McDowell in McDonald's! HGWells has a hamburger!

In the final confrontation, Jack the Ripper (David Warner) threatens Herbert George's girlfriend (Mary Steenburgen) in the museum where Wells' time machine is on display.

on BEN-HUR & JULIUS CEASAR. He was also on the staff behind THE HINDENBURG & METEOR. His work on the great Time Machine is impressive. The movie doesn't rely too heavily on mind-boggling effex nor does it dwell on matte work or miniatures.

It does come across as a beautifully choreographed piece of film, graceful & smooth. When Wells is traveling thru time we see him sitting in the Machine and time is literally passing him by. We hear sounds and sense that there are sights blurring the screen. It's an odd sensation, perhaps close to an actual sensation of time travel.

the potent players

Malcolm McDowell plays HGWells Sci-fi fans will remember him in Stanley Kubrick's CLOCKWORK ORANGE in which he played Alex, the head Droog.

Malcolm has appeared in many other feature films & TV productions but is most memorable in CLOCKWORK ORANGE. It was a visual tour-de-force and his role was a difficult one as he changed from vicious gang member to meek & mild, plain old Alex, then back to his former self at film's end.

The part of Jack the Ripper, alias Dr. Steven-

A victim of Jack is dragged up from her watery grave.

The Streets of San Francisco were never like this! A welcome for Wells that the Master Mind of Science Fiction never anticipated.

son, is handled by David Warner, another fine actor with a list of numerous credits. You can catch him in the current NIGHTWING, about vampire bats attacking the southwestern United States, and he was nominated for an Emmy in TV's *Holocaust*. The character he plays in TIME AFTER TIME is one of change, much like Alex in CLOCKWORK. He is normal, well-meaning, brilliant doctor and chessplayer. Yet he is a killer, striking at night, slashing his victims with a scalpel.

Wells' girlfriend, Amy Robbins, is played by newcomer Mary Steenburgen, a young & lovely lass who previously appeared in only one other movie. When she meets the time-tripping Wells they trip together in a love-oriented relationship that is both tender & comical.

preview report

FM just spoke with a young man who has seen a preview of the film and Jason tells us:

"You come away from the theater feeling *good*. It's like seeing a Frank Capra film. You're excited, thrilled, it's amusing & sad, most important it's a *fun* movie.

"It's the kind of thing that leaves you with a new sense of values & judgment. It's like seeing the WIZARD OF OZ or STAR WARS. You leave the theater feeling you've learned a valuable lesson in human (or inhuman) behavior. You just feel *good*."

the shape of wells to come?

While we don't know for sure, and nothing has been said either in rumor or casual conversation, it's likely that there *could* be a sequel to this movie. It ends in such a way that there could be more to come.

The Further Adventures of HGWells?

The *Future* Adventures of HGWells?

With nothing but time on his side it's likely that there could be a sequel or a series of stories surrounding the Great Machine!

Looking back in time we see that there is a trend.

CREATURE FROM THE BLACK LAGOON was set free at the end of the film. Oh sure, he was shot and sinking to the bottom of the lagoon, but *we* knew better. He made 2 more appearances.

Then there was FRANKENSTEIN and THE WOLF MAN & the MUMMY. Look how may times they came back. And let's not forget DRACULA.

No one really believed that Darth Vader had died in STAR WARS as his ship went spiraling thru space. He's back in THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK.

And how about those banished criminals of SUPERMAN? We're sure to see them again.

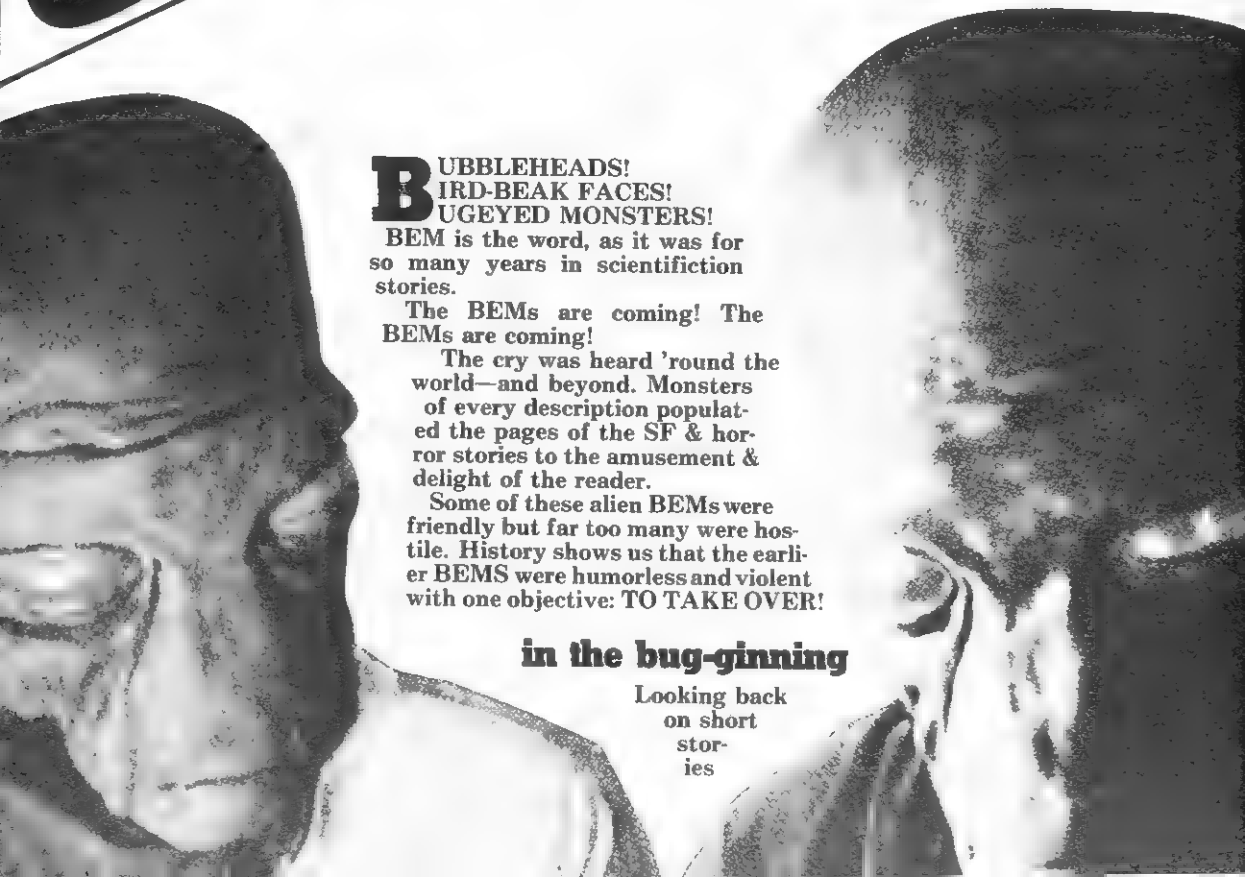
So it's just a matter of *time*.

What they have created here is a timeless product that could go on till the end of time.

MOS EISLEY'S CANTINA

where life is a song

by frank lee aylyen



BUBBLEHEADS!
BIRD-BEAK FACES!
UGEYED MONSTERS!

BEM is the word, as it was for so many years in scientifiction stories.

The BEMs are coming! The BEMs are coming!

The cry was heard 'round the world—and beyond. Monsters of every description populated the pages of the SF & horror stories to the amusement & delight of the reader.

Some of these alien BEMs were friendly but far too many were hostile. History shows us that the earlier BEMS were humorless and violent with one objective: TO TAKE OVER!

in the bug-ginning

Looking back on short stories

It's always Fear Weather when Ghoul Fellows get together. Meet Th' Gang at Mos' Place.

like Fitz-James O'Brien's "What Was It?", written during the mid-1800s, he reported an invisible dwarf-like creature that came to Earth in a most unusual way. The thing attacked but there was no way to see it since the human eye could not discern its structure.

Finally the alien being was captured and held while plaster could be poured over it. The result was a nightmarish monster cast in one of the most horrible statues ever made. The tiny BEM died in the end and was buried. But were there more out there?

Author/scientist HGWells told us about alien invaders from Mars in his classic "War of the Worlds." These were black, tar-like slugs that slithered about the Earth, weighed down by the heavier gravity on our planet. Their tentacled arms reached out menacingly for anything & everything. Nothing friendly here.

the fearsome 50s

The 1950s (filmwise) gave us every kind of BEM imaginable and few were what could be considered friendly. And they were most certainly not *cute*! There were the blobs & brains & things & the radioactive giants. There were the moles & insects & terrors from beyond space.

"Lissen, Cag, who you callin' a dirty rat?"

With the arrival of the 1960s things began to change. Not only social things but alien *things*!

Stanley Kubrick's 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY took us on a trip thru 4 millions years of humankind's history on Earth, then to a mind-boggling excursion into outer space. While it was assumed that we were being watched by some intelligent beings, we never got a look at them. We have to go on the assumption that they were beneficial since they seemed to help us.

things looking black

First it was the appearance of the Black Monolith that taught the apes how to hunt for food and be cunning. It took eons to develop from that stage to the next and suddenly it was 2001 where hundreds of military satellites circled the Earth and a giant Space Wheel served as a hotel & launching site for trips to the moon. And on the moon earthlings found their next step in a buried monolith which led them to Jupiter for the next change in human evolution.

Even as the lone astronaut went thru the metamorphosis in the French Provincial bedroom and became the Star Child, we never saw the aliens. We heard them with their unusual apelike sounds but they were never seen.

So where do we go from here?

Not to 2001 but to 1977 and a blockbuster movie called STAR WARS.

The movie means a lot of different things to different people. Some take it seriously, others consider it to be just plain fun. I remember my first reactions. It was like Flash Gordon & Wizard of Oz & a great John Wayne western all rolled into one. After seeing it a dozen times I was just as excited & thrilled, leaving the theater happy & feeling good.

You probably wonder why a western. Of course I'm referring to the famous Cantina scene at Mos Eisley.

dantesville

Whether it be Jesse James or Marshall Matt Dillon, no outlaw, sheriff or man of the west has ever come upon a town so vile, so disgusting, so *bad* as Mos Eisley.

Tombstone Territory was a garden spot compared to Mos Eisley, Dodge City was a Disneyland and the Ponderosa Ranch was a playground compared to—MOS EISLEY!!

Obi-Wan had warned Luke about the place before they arrived. Looking at it from high above the valley, it even *looked* dangerous from far away!

But young Luke Skywalker *had* to go there.

There was no sign that read: Welcome To Mos Eisley.

In fact, there was very little there except parched desert land & old, decrepit buildings. The streets were patrolled by Stormtroopers and vehicles & droids of every description flowed by.

There was a spot that stood out from the rest of the desolation. A meeting place for every sort of undesirable in the galaxy. A place where one could go and have a good bad time.

Like losing an arm or hand to a Laser Sword!

don't lose your head

Fighting with a deformed, demented criminal wanted in 13 different solar systems!

Or being sought & killed by the Imperial Storm troopers!

And where is this fun place?

The Mos Eisley Cantina!

By now it's history. From one end of the galaxy to the other, to the ends of the universe and even in the local cantinas on other planets, the word is out.

Han Solo, Obi-Wan & Luke Skywalker caused quite a disturbance at the ol' drinking hole.

But what of the *regular* crowd, the local & not-so-local denizens who inhabit the place day after day? And night after night?

Do they care about the bounty on Han Solo's head?

Are they interested in the reward for Luke or the Princess?

Do the affairs of the Imperial Stormtroopers concern them?

ace in the hole

In order to find out the answers to these and other burning questions, FM has sent one of its ace reporters to Mos Eisley Cantina for this exclusive report. (We just received word from our newsthing that he is being taken away to an Imperial prison, accused of being a spy!)

Transmission stations posted around the galaxy relayed his message for all to hear. It is with great pride that we bring you this report:

"Biff Steele reporting from the Mos Eisley Cantina. In this most unusual thing-on-the-street interview we will give you first hand information and in-depth reporting.

"As I wander around the room I see before me an odd assembly of creatures. There in the corner are two . . . er, well . . . let's see if we can get a word with them.

"Excuse me! I'm a reporter from FM and . . .

At this point the 2 aliens sort of stared at each other, then at Biff Steele. Their bulging eyes never blinked and their grasshopper-like expression never changed but it was clear that they did not wish to be bothered!

"I'm moving out to the main floor now. There's quite a party going on here. All kinds of people & costumes. At least some of these folk are having a good tme!

"I can remember visiting some pubs back on Earth and I used to think that *those* people were strange. But this place is too much! Over across the dance floor, for instance. There's a guy standing there . . . well, I *think* it's a guy, dressed in a brown robe. He looks a little like a turtle without a shell.

"I'll have a malted milk," sez Shorty Snorty at the Mos Eisley Bar--just before getting thrown out on his big ear.

"Make it one for my baby and one more for the rogue."

Which one is the fake alien? (Clue: check out the hands.)

"I'll match your bet and raise you 50 million weetongs," sez Big Time Gambler in Mos Eisley's Oasis.

doughboy

"And next to him . . . Gee, how do I describe this to an audience millions of miles away? I've got it. Do you remember playing with that kids' dough when you were young? And you shaped & molded it like clay? Well, if you took some of that and made a face on it, then pulled it back and stretched it out, that's what he'd look like!

"Another one in the background looks like he was caught in a vacuum cleaner. All very odd.

"Right before I left for this assignment the publisher sent me to see a new movie called ALIEN. It's all part of the job for me but it left a bad taste in my mouths. Seeing that and having to be here just doesn't sit well! I see a tall bald man wearing a long robe talking with a beautiful young woman. He's almost normal except for one thing . . . There's an alien-like starfish something-or-other covering his eyes, nose & part of his mouth!

is that bar tender?

"Moving thru the crowd now I think I'll try to reach the bar and order one of the house specialties. *If* I can attract the bartender's attention, that is!

"'Yeah?' the gruff man bellowed. 'Whatcha want?'

"'Gimme the house special.'

"The man laughed. 'Are you *sure*?' he asked.

"I glanced around the room. Everyone else seemed to be enjoying their drinks without any ill effect so I decided to go for it.

"'That'll be 10 credits,' the man told me. While I thought it was rather high I decided it was best to remain silent.

what a gag!

"Walking toward the end of the bar I was about to attempt an interview with a bear-like alien when I took a sip from the glass.

"How can I describe the horror that followed! It was like swallowing raw crude oil mixed with perfume. I nearly choked & gagged but not wanting to seem too out of place did everything in my power to remain composed. And I went on with the interview.

"The bear-man told me he was visiting relatives stationed at an outpost nearby and had stopped in 2 days ago for a drink. It seems that his planet has been overrun by Wookies and the balance of population was getting out of hand. "'The Wookies are a nice lot,' he told me, 'but there are just too many of 'em!'

"He never did get around to telling me what his particular race was called but he had the face of a bear, the ears of a bat & clawlike hands. His movements were slow & deliberate and I wasn't sure if it was part of his nature or if he had just been in the Cantina too long!

"Another alien, a kind of bald walrus-like creature with glaring black eyes, told me he knew why there was an energy problem at Mos Eisley.

it's synful

"'It started here,' he said, 'and it's growing! Pretty soon it'll spread to the rest of the planet and then into space. I know! I know!' he insisted as he drank a hefty portion of the (ugh!) house special. 'It's those *droids*! The doirds consume more oil than any other machinery on this planet! They're in constant need of repair. Everything else around here runs on solar power & synfuels but not the droids. Get rid of 'em, I say! Who needs 'em?'

"I moved on to the next customer, sitting by himself in a small corner. He was trying to speak with me but I couldn't understand his language. We finally gave up. It was obvious that he had made every attempt to translate his message for me but I just wasn't prepared to comprehend the many alien dialects in Mos Eisley. On Earth it was easy to understand the guy from Brooklyn or the gal from LA but this was totally different.

a word to the vise . . .

"Before I turned to leave he tried to shake my hand, which proved to be a painful experience. His clawed *hands* resembled a lobster's and his grasp was like a vise!

"I must admit that I got great enjoyment from the band and their outta-sight instruments. I had the best seat: front & center. I learned that the group was on tour from a point 16 light-years distant and would be leaving shortly for another stop at the Som Yelsie Cantina on the other side of the planet. It was a family act with Ma & Pa playing lead instruments and various sons & daughters doing the backup. I was especially impressed with the synthesizers they used. I tried to make a deal with their manager to appear on Earth but they're booked up until late 1997.

"Finally I got to talk with a most unusual fellow whom I nicknamed Flyface. He had 2 great bulbous eyes on either side of his head and his bluish complexion & long fangs gave him an unsightly appearance but he was a rather nice individual.

One Drink of Lava in Mos Eisley's Cantina and you see Pink Elephants — Pink Elephants are YOU!

fly in the ointment

"Flyface told me he had been a prisoner at one of the Imperial Strongholds for 3 years. When the Stromtroopers invaded his home planet of Hel Pme he was taken away as a spy just because he batted an eye the wrong way or something.

"I told him that things like that just didn't happen. Guards just don't come along and take people off because they feel like it. But he insisted that's what happened so what was I to say?

"Anyhow, we talked some more and he pointed out several other visiting aliens at the Cantina. I asked him where the local people were, if anybody lived in Mos Eisley.

"He was quick to say that *no one* really *lives* there if they could help it. It was more of a stopping-off place. Pointing to some rough-looking characters near the side door he said that they had escaped from a penal colony but no one would dare turn them in.

"Judging by the way they looked I could see why! Big, hulking brutes covered with hair, each weighing at least 7 or 800 pounds. I doubt that even a hand-laser would phase them!

fly-spy & he can't flee

"Flyface has been telling me about the great galactic war that is about to erupt. The doors to the Cantina suddenly burst open and Stormtroopers are stomping in. Many of the patrons are fleeing. One of the white-clad officers is approaching me. He looks menacing.

* * *

Editor's note: The conversation was cut off at this point and we're not really sure what happened. One eyewitness (and he had 48 eyes) told our news staff that because our reporter was seen talking to a known spy, he too was considered a spy and therefore dangerous to the Empire. The publisher is arranging his bail bond (a billion krediteks) at this time and we're all hoping for his release. We understand the fly folk of Hel Pme (and anyone caught with them) are imprisoned by being dropped in huge spider webs ... guarded by starved Black Widows.

In the meantime, we would suggest that a visit to Mos Eisley may not be the ideal vacation or fun stop for the weekend while traveling in the space-time continuum. An unusual time is guaranteed for all but you never know when the festivities may be interrupted and you may be hauled away to some faroff space slammer.

We hope the holograms smuggled back from the notorious dive will serve to curb your curiosity.

Remember: curiosity killed a cat.

And that goes for aliens as well as humans and er, filmonster fans.

END

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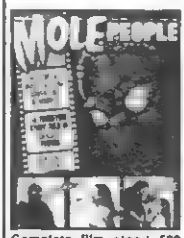

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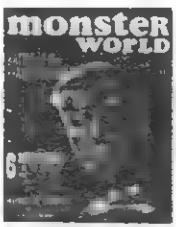

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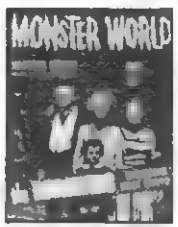

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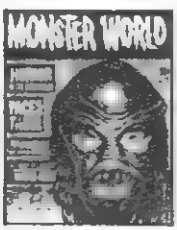

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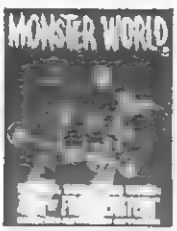

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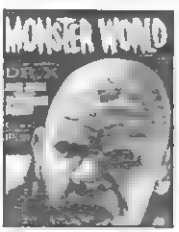

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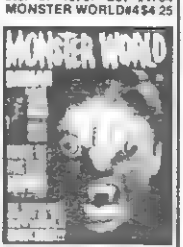

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FLEISCHER DIES

his animation ends

DAVE FLEISCHER 14 July 1894 to 25 June 1979

DAVE FLEISCHER, the last of the great cartoon animators, died of a stroke at age 84. His work in the field was a significant contribution to the art of motion picture animation. It was often said that Fleischer's work was equal to or superior to that of Walt Disney.

Dave & his brother Max began their career in 1920 at the Bray Studio where they produced the now classic *Out of the Inkwell* series featuring KoKo the Clown. These particular cartoons were shown to TV audiences in the 1950s & 60s, opening the way for other vintage cartoons from the Golden Days of Animation.

Moving to Hollywood, Max & Dave opened their own studio and worked closely with Paramount Pictures where they created Betty Boop and the famous "Follow the Bouncing Ball" cartoons. These cartoons were featured in theaters as late as the 1960s and people would sing along while the little bouncing ball pointed out each word of the song.

The Fleischer Bros. released a couple of classic animated shorts as well. One dealt with *Gulliver's Travels* and the other featured Popeye as a *Sinbad*-type character who went to a mythical island. The animation in both was incredible.

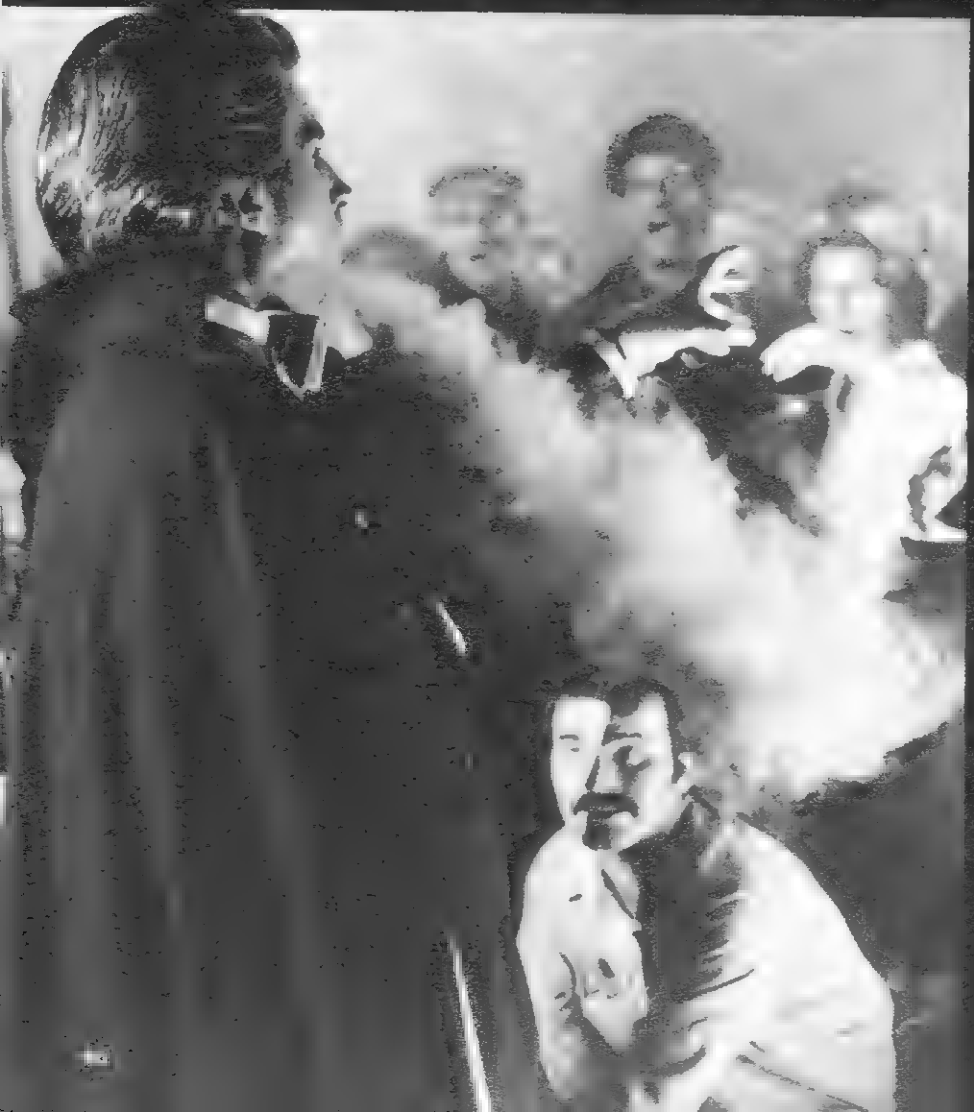
Long before Kirk Alvin or George Reeves ever played in the serials or Christopher Reeve starred as the Man of Steel in the recent movie, Dave Fleischer had created a series of animated *Superman* cartoons that boasted the most fantastic color & movement ever seen in this type of work. Dave was able to achieve a fluid motion that few animators could ever hope to accomplish. Also, in the Kirk Alyn films Fleischer did the animation for the special flying sequences!

In 1963 it was Dave Fleischer who created the animated attacks of Alfred Hitchcock's THE BIRDS and in 1972 Dave won the Annie, an animation award. He was nominated twice for the Academy Award.

When THE BIRDS attacked, DAVE FLEISCHER handled the animation sequences.

YOU AXED FOR IT!

To avoid any cutting remarks, the ole Shock Doc slipped out of his shroud long enough to do a little work to try to please the creepy crowd. If you want to keep him busy, send your requests (on a postcard only) to Shock Doc, % FAMOUS MONSTERS, Warren Pub. Co., 145 E. 32 St., NYC 10016.



LOVE AT FIRST BITE or Love at First Breath? We've heard of bad breath, but—this? Fog get it! (George Hamilton here to please Kristina Hallind, Kristina Darkon, Alicia Aria, Nanek Anderson, Helena Roberts, Winky Cervon, Pamela Hanson & Jacie Appelbaum.)

For the Billions of Fans of Rick Baker, the STAR WARS Cantina Scene above and, below, we show you inside the Secret Studio of the Fabulous Monster Maker.

YOU AXED FOR IT!

A role for Tor Johnson, had he but lived. This Horror Heavy is from the forthcoming ARABIAN ADVENTURES. (Shown for King Tot, Son of Tut; Im-ha-tep; Kharis' mommy; and others as numerous as grains of sand on the deserts of Egypt.)

"Sorry I bent your bar," says SUPERMAN, "but I thought you knew I had an iron will as well as muscles of steel." (Shown for swooning she-fans & envious he-fans from here to the interstellar world known as the planet Krypton.)

Recognize these guys? They're Stormtroopers from the film the French fans call LA GUERRE DES ETOILES and all English-speaking fans have been calling GREAT:STAR WARS!

Christopher Lee's favorite film has been released at last and made a hit with his fans. Here we see 3 comely young ladies (lead by lovely Ingrid Pitt on the left) about to make a hit with the Hunchback of Clown Town.

YOU AXED FOR IT!

Dig you later, Tusken Raider--dig you a grave, that is! Don't you know it's a grave matter to tangle with Luke Skywalker? Well, you do now!

END

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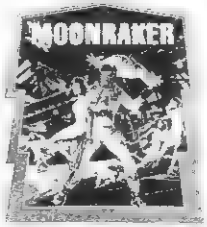

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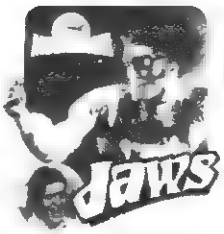

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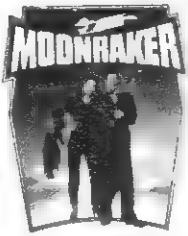

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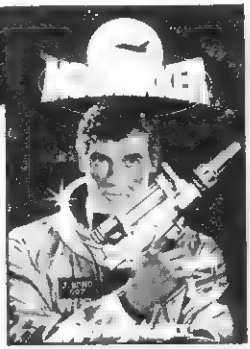

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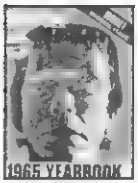

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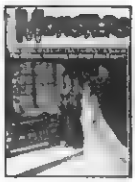

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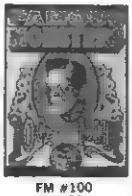
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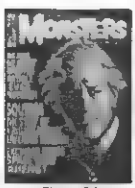
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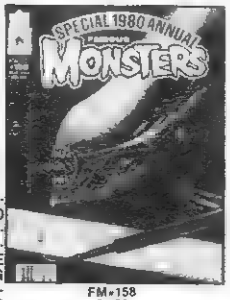

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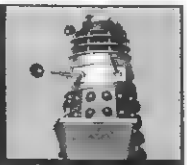

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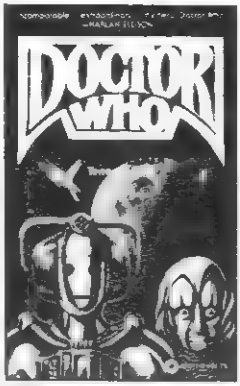

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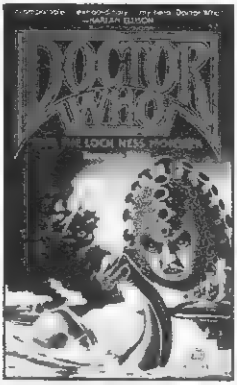

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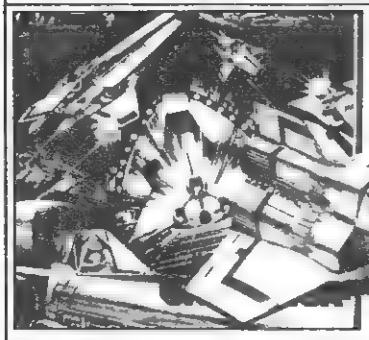

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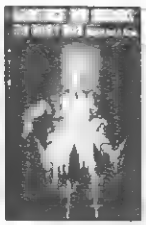

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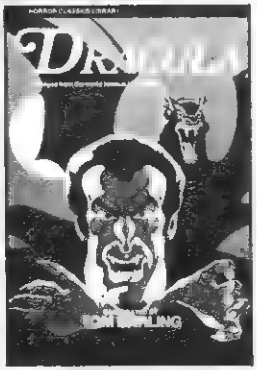

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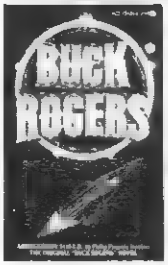

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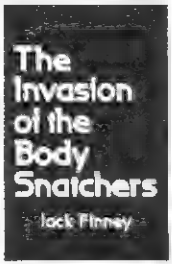

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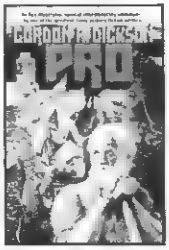

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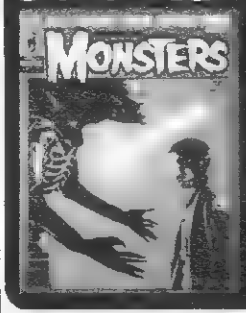

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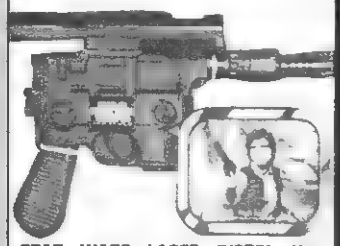

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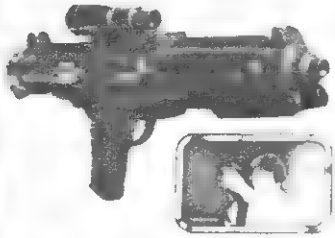

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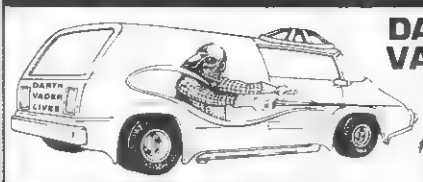

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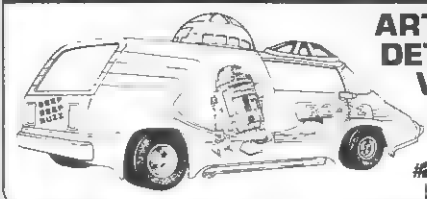

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LUKE SKYWALKER VAN KIT

#24214/ $2.25

To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.

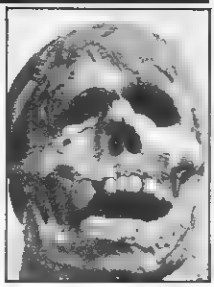
1980 FRANK FRAZETTA CALENDAR

1980 FRANK FRAZETTA CALENDAR The incredible Frazetta strikes again in 1980! A fabulous collection of 13 impressive prints and a dramatic cover! Everything is in full color on glossy stock in a 12½"x12" format! A terrific gift for your favorite Frazetta friend or for yourself! All lovers of fantasy art will find this Frazetta calendar perfect for 1980! #26183/$4.95

DELUXE LATEX RUBBER WHOLE HEAD MASKS

OLD VAMPIRE! Pale flesh with silver strands of hair Blood flows over teeth! #2591/$23 95

SARGOTH THE COBRA Fangs ready, the olive colored, hooded reptile waits #2599/$23 95



MUMMY 5000 B.C Fleshy shards and bits of rag seem to be falling off ! #2595/ $23 95

B GARRET THETA Rotted corpse with hand painted flesh & exposed brains! #25004/$23 95

GREY TIMBERWOLF Sleek beast with real smoke grey hair and menacing snarl! #2590/$42.75

DEMON From the depths of gothic horror a tawny, fanged devil waits! #25002/$23 95

YETI Menacing fangs shrouded by wind blown brown and white "real" hair mane! #2582/$42 75

BLOODY WEREWOLF Snarling blood encrusted teeth, bristling hair and fangs! #2583/$42 75

DRACULA Pale, frightening features, "real" graying hair and menacing fangs #2585/$33 95

KING KONG Nostrils flared and black fur flying, the king is on the rampage! #2586/$33 95

ERIK Face horribly scarred and abounding with festering sores! Lots of real hair! #2587/$33.95

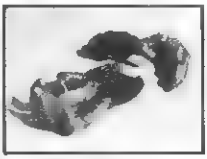
QUASIMODO Long rusty "real" hair covers the disfigured head of the hunchback! #2588/$33 95

WHITE TIMBERWOLF Snarling terror has "real" snowy fur and white fangs. #2589/$42 75

HANDS & FEET

WEREWOLF HANDS (1 PAIR) #2539/$23 95

MUMMY HANDS (1 PAIR) #2541/$27 95



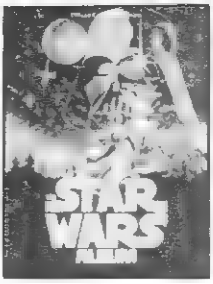
GORILLA HANDS (1 PAIR) #2550/$27 95

GORILLA FEET (1 PAIR) #2551/$27 95

AVAILABLE ONLY IN THE U.S. AND CANADA.

To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.

STAR WARS POWER PACKED BOOKS!



STAR WARS ALBUM Definitive 8"x11" paperback with 76 pages & 40 color and over, 100 black & white photos! #21292/$5.95

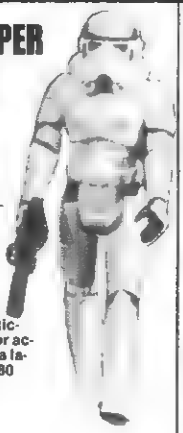
STAR WARS STORY BOOK Lavish color pictures illustrate this epic movie! 64 pages in an 8"x11" hardcover! #21322/$4.95

STAR WARS POP-UP BOOK Full color illustrations pop-up to bring the movie to life. 6½"x9" softcover! #21323/$3.95

STAR WARS PUNCH-OUT AND MAKE-IT BOOK Assemble these 3D paper models with no cutting or pasting! #21324/$3.95

STAR WARS GIANT NEW ACTION FIGURES!

STORMTROOPER ACTION FIGURE



STORMTROOPER ACTION FIGURE The Emperor's enforcers and spreaders of terror throughout the galaxy. Each deadly trooper is enormous at 12" tall, wears his detailed black & white space suit, has fully articulated arms and legs for action poses and carries a laser rifle! #26180/$13.80

R2-D2 ACTION FIGURE

R2-D2 ACTION FIGURE R2-D2 is a gigantic 7½" tall! He rolls on wheels in his legs, chrome plated dome makes a clicking sound as it turns and a secret panel holds top secret plans of the Empire Death Star! #26120/$12.95

DARTH VADER ACTION FIGURE

DARTH VADER ACTION FIGURE Darth Vader is an enormous 15" tall! Darth carries his own light saber, has fully articulated arms & legs for action packed posing and authentically detailed armor and removable cape for hours of action packed fun! #26116/$13.75

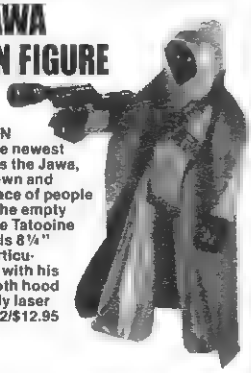
CHEWBACCA ACTION FIGURE

CHEWBACCA ACTION FIGURE This hairy giant stands 15" high! Han Solo's faithful alien carries a crossbow and a laser rifle. Chewie is fully articulated so that his arms & legs move for hours of action packed fun! #26117 / $13.75

C-3PO ACTION FIGURE

C-3PO ACTION FIGURE A bright metallic golden color, C-3PO stands 12" tall! C-3PO has articulated legs and arms that can be moved for lots of action poses as the dynamic droid does his best to help the rebels overthrow the corrupt galactic Empire! #26119/$13.75

JAWA ACTION FIGURE

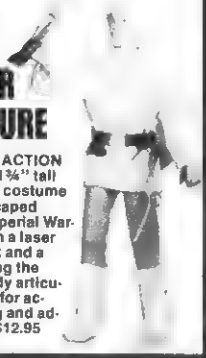


JAWA ACTION FIGURE The newest Star Warrior is the Jawa, that little known and mysterious race of people who inhabit the empty reaches of the Tatooine desert. Jawa is 8¼" tall, is fully articulated, comes with his legendary cloth hood and his deadly laser rifle! #26182/$12.95

HAN SOLO ACTION FIGURE

HAN SOLO ACTION FIGURE That piratical adventurer with a heart of gold is 12" tall in this version. He has a fully detailed cloth uniform, laser rifle, Rebel Alliance Honor Medal worn on his neck and movable arms, legs and neck just like all the other Star Wars characters. He's ready for action. #26121/$13.75

LUKE SKYWALKER ACTION FIGURE



LUKE SKYWALKER ACTION FIGURE Luke is 11¾" tall and comes with the costume he wore as he escaped Tatooine and the Imperial Warriors. He comes with a laser rifle, grappling hook and a utility belt for holding the hook. Luke has a fully articulated arms and legs for action posing, fighting and adventures. #26118/$12.95

To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.

UNBELIEVABLE HOME MOVIES!
HEART-THROBBING-200′ REELS!

HOUSE of DRACULA

In this brilliant shocker the legendary Count Dracula is portrayed, with sinister bravado, by the great character actor John Carradine As if he wasn't enough, included in the guest list: Frankenstein's monster & the Wolfman, played by Lon Chaney, Jr. The three clash in one of film's most exciting battles! View this in B&W. Super 8 only. #22084/$10.95

PSYCHO

A young woman stops at the Bates Motel and she is brutally murdered while taking a shower. This movie is the most terrifying & the most horrible of all the Hitchcock movies ever produced! This classic of the horror genre stars Anthony Perkins as the psychotic killer & Vera Miles as his intended victim! This film is a terrifying thriller! Super 8mm only, B&W only. #22088/$10.59

THE MUMMY'S TOMB

We are not in Transylvania but rather in the mysterious land of Egypt. Here is where the bandaged ghoul hangs out ... Dead and buried for who knows how long? But is the Mummy actually dead—or is he in fact—breathing through those bandages? Come a bit closer and see for yourself! B&W in regular 8mm. #2229/$10.95

FRANKENSTEIN MUST BE DESTROYED

Are you ready for this one? It's all new and all too frightening! The most horrifying "Frankenstein" movie ever filmed! See the most fiendish monster ever conceived! You can view this film in the privacy of your own home ... and scream to your heart's content. Super and regular 8 film in Black and White. Order. #2234/$10.95

DR. X

This daring movie was one of the most elusive of all the major horror films of the early 1930's. With its great visual style, this film stresses shadowy effects, sharp and angular images. Don't end up in this weird Dr.'s laboratory .... You might never get out! Be sure to order Super or regular 8 film. Black and White only . #2272/$10.95

MONSTER THAT CHALLENGED THE WORLD

Would you believe a giant mollusk of vaguely lobster like appearance? Having been at the bottom of the sea for billions of years . he finally surfaces for a breather—and some food ... None other than human blood! Then it's the U.S. Navy to the rescue! Have you any doubt of the out-[redacted]? Black & White Super & reg. 8mm. #2274/$10.95

THE SPIDER

It must eat you to live! You will be amazed at the size of this beast! It's hard to fight back against fifty tons of ugly—creaping black horror! An entire brigade tries its best to stop the spider. Action galore! A Black and White fantasy-film-frolic. Don't waste time in ordering! Super or regular 8mm film. Specify. #2276/$10.95

WAR of the PLANETS

The Metalunan monsters strike Earth in a reign of terror! They kidnap two Terran scientists and bring them back to Metaluna. And that is just the beginning! Our scientists discover themselves to be in the midst of a universal war on a scale so vast and at a level of horror so unimaginable as to boggle their minds! A 200' reel. Super 8 only! #2235/$10.95

THE SCREAMING SKULL

Released from that manmade hell—a state mental institution, a woman who thinks she has been cured begins to see strange and frightening things. Gradually —horrifying grinning skulls begin to leer at her out of thin air. Will she go mad? Black and white, super 8mm only! #22081/$10.95

FIRST SPACESHIP ON VENUS

You will be the first ... The very first Earthling to see what is actually happening on the second planet from our sun! One of man's most exciting, most incredible film journeys. Enjoy this wonderful movie ... Plus on the same reel ... Preview attractions! See it in Black and White—Super or regular 8—Buy it today. #2279/$10.95

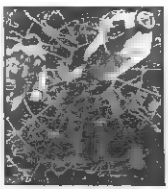
GHIDRAH

Three heads are better than one ... For this tri-headed creature, anyway This beast is unreal! He cannot be destroyed by any weapons known to man! Where does this monster evolve from? A soaring meteor! Soaring into your home in a Black and White movie. Either Super or regular 8mm film. Order yours today and specify. #2281/$10.95

BATTLES OF GHIDRAH

The three headed beast comes face to face . with Godzilla, Rodan and Mothra! They are called upon to defend their home planet from the fire breathing baddie from beyond the Stratosphere. Action-packed scenes! Don't dare miss this fantasy movie. Great! Super 8 mm Black and White Order now! A classic! #2282/$10.95

MAROONED



How would you like to be marooned in outer space? This is the movie saga of Ironman One (a space vehicle) and its passengers. A fine science fiction film for everybody! Choose from: Super or regular 8 Color film #22052/$23.95. Or a Black and White version in Super or regular 8. #22051/$12.95 Both are really fantastic flicks!

MONSTER FROM A PREHISTORIC PLANET

A giant octopus and an entire family of winged flying griffin type furries have the country of Japan in an uproar with terror and complete destruction! Their tremendous powers were unbelievable when teamed together! How do all of the people escape from their horrible fates? Available in Super 8 film only. B&W Order now! #22066/$10.95

THE RAVEN

Good God! Vincent Price, Boris Karloff & Peter Lorre in the Edgar Allan Poe tale The Raven! This century's horror and humor. It's funny, it's frightening, it's fantastic! This spicy spoof is a classic for the collector! Regular 8mm in black & white reels only! #22079/$10.95

To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.

GRAVEYARD EXAMINER

#72

CREATURE FEATURES

FINAL

DEAD-LETTER EDITION

EDITOR, JEFF ROVIN

BATTLESTAR

Answer the following questions, or fill in the blanks, using letters found in the word BATTLESTAR. You may use each letter only one time per answer.

1. What BEN was
2. Where you Trek
3. What Jack the Ripper did
4. It came from 20,000 fathoms
5. The PSYCHO guy
6. A Cave _____, one of the creatures fought by the Son of Kong
7. A black _____, the alien "alarm clock" in 2001
8. The GALACTICA baddie
9. What Nemo sailed beneath
10. _____ from the Crypt

DIS GUY'S DISGUISE

Reader Steve Fiorilla of Framingham, MA recently sent us a quiz which we'd like to share with GE fans. He calls it, "a game about Hollywood's makeup men"—all you need do is match the creator with the creature.

1. Dick Smith	a. Demon Baby (IT'S ALIVE)
2. Rick Baker	b. Greedo (STAR WARS)
3. Lon Chaney, Sr.	c. The Thing (From Another World)
4. Steve Neill	d. The Vampire (LONDON AFTER MIDNIGHT)
5. Wally Westmore	f. Frankenstein's Monster (Karloff)
6. Stuart Freeborn	g. PLANET OF THE APES
7. Jack Pierce	h. Regan (THE EXORCIST)
8. Lee Greenway	i. The Metaluna Mutant (THIS ISLAND EARTH)
9. John Chambers	j. Mr. Hyde (Fredric March)
10. Bud Westmore	k. Billy Duncan/Alien (LASERBLAST)

KING KONG: EAT YOUR HEART OUT!

Thus screams the headline of a story being circulated by the Associated Press. According to the wire service, a four year old, forty-five pound spider monkey escaped from a car breaking the chain which secured it. After two hours, the monkey's female owner was able to coax the primate from someone's porch back into captivity. No, her name was not Jill Young. The site of this adventure: Bartlesville, Oklahoma.

MONSTERS OF THE MONTH

PETER SAVIO LARRY KNIGHT BRIAN GRAY

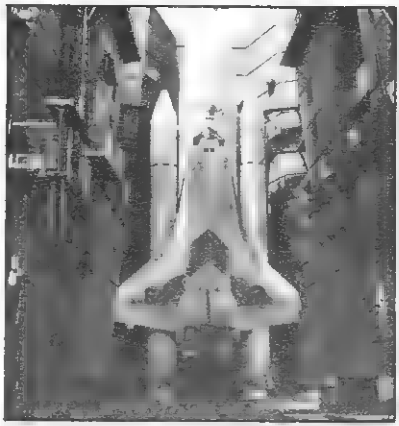
SPEAKING OF KONG...

... the great ape's back IN THE FLESH—or in the FUR, as the case may be. This summer, the Empire State Building in New York City has the legendary Skull Island native greeting visitors in its stratospheric observatory. Wearing a shaggy ape suit and earning fifty dollars a day, actor Richard Alpers welcomes children to the tower and blows up balloons for them. Richard won-out over 150 hopefuls, all of whom had read an ad in the newspaper SHOW BUSINESS. The call-to-hairy arms read, in part, "Must love kids and be able to sweat out summer in itchy, hairy garb. No need to jump off building." As his cinematic namesake, the career of the new Kong will end in the fall.

MONSTER FILE MOONRAKER

The name of the space shuttles which are seen in the James Bond film MOONRAKER. Built by Hugo Drax, each plane is launched via a huge booster rocket, which is discarded when the shuttle reaches orbit. To reenter the atmosphere, the MOONRAKER simply flies back to earth like an airplane. The one difference: it is not a powered return. The Moonraker drifts to a landing just like a glider.

In MOONRAKER, Drax uses six laser-armed Moonrakers to ferry males and females to his space station, there to breed a new and perfect race of humans. These ships are all based on the actual designs for NASA's space shuttle due for launch into space later this year. The special effects in the film were supervised by model master Derek Meddings, who worked under the supervision of science expert Eric Burgess. For further details about MOONRAKER, see the ad for Warren Publishing's special, exclusive MOONRAKER Magazine, on the back cover of this issue.



THE PRINTED WEIRD

Although BATTLESTAR GALACTICA has been cancelled along with the previously announced specials, since producer Glen Larson is too busy working on Buck Rogers for NBC —BATTLESTAR GALACTICA products continue to appear. From Dutton: the 1980 BATTLESTAR GALACTICA calendar. From Putnam: THE BATTLESTAR GALACTICA STORY BOOK. Finally, a second Photostory is scheduled for publication to coincide with the planned December release of another theatrical film, edited from the BATTLESTAR GALACTICA TV series.

A final and very unusual item: from McGraw Hill, A PICTORIAL HISTORY OF UFOs. This $12.95 hardcover features a wealth of intriguing photographs, many of them from the Air Force's recently declassified Project Blue Book Files. If you're a UFOlower, this volume is a must for your library.

MEANTIME: FIRST WINNERS!

Due to scheduling problems, the winners of our MEANTIME contest will appear in three issues of FM. The first winners, to age 14, are presented below. Two entries are presented, both of them having greatly impressed the editors. The winners of age group 15 to 21 will be published in FM #160, and the over-21s in FM #161. Remember: we gave our readers the first and last sentence of a story; they had to fill in the rest!

THE STRANGE EXPERIENCE

by Ian W. Hill, age 11

The car began to shrink, and Jessica was afraid. She knew that she shouldn't have come to the picnic, but her best friend Don had persuaded her. It was a terrible day, just as she had predicted, just as her Horoscope had predicted.

"Maybe she was right!" thought Don. "I should listen to Jessica more often! First we lose our food; then some junior siphons away our gas, and now a strange light is ruining my car!"

"Listen to him," Jessica complained. "We're being shrunk and he worries about his car!"

"Why not?" he said. "It's rented—oh oh! Listen!"

A voice boomed from above. "Greetings earthlings. You are very lucky. You are to be specimens in our interplanetary zoo."

"Your light is shrinking us," said Jessica. "That's lucky?"

"Yes, it is, for the rest of your planet is to be destroyed. Your people lie and cheat too much. As a matter of fact, we've just decided to disintegrate the one of you which lies the most."

Don instantly vanished.

"Is that all you can do?" asked Jessica. "Destroy?"

"No!" the extraterrestrial screamed. He was not answering her question. He was in pain. "EMOTION! NOT EMOTION!" Before Jessica's eyes, he blew up with an earth-shattering KA-BLOOOOOOOOM!

Though the alien was gone, Jessica was still shrunk. She joined a circus as the smallest lion in the world. As for that strange picnic, Jessica thought about it for many, many years.

THE SOLUTION

by Jack Wenberg, age 13

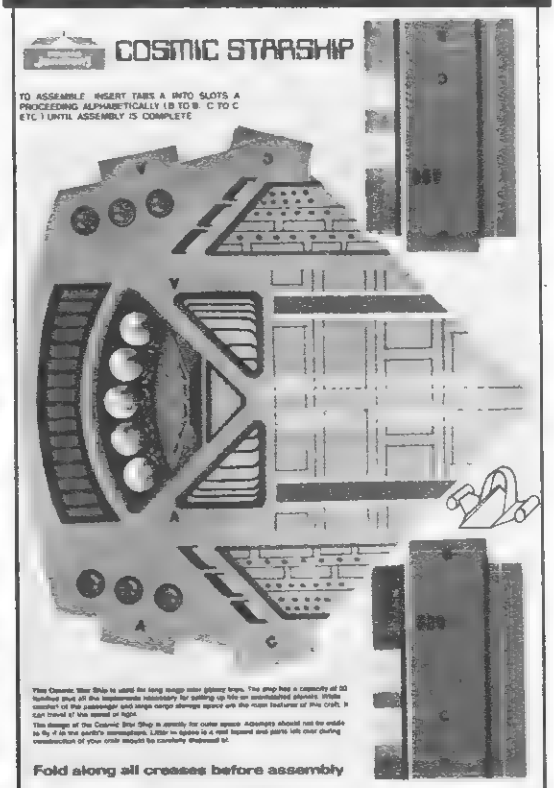
The car began to shrink, with Jessica inside, as the purplish beam increased its intensity. Jessica's mind went blank as she reached her full height of six inches. It would take some time for her to adjust to her new size, but she knew it was the only solution to her planet's problem of overpopulation.

Jessica stepped from her car, and looked at the slender green trees that were once blades of grass to her. Standing there in her new stature, she started to explore the strange environment. Jessica thought about it for many, many years.

YE OLDE GE

From FM #14, October of 1961, come these horrific, historic headlines as printed in the second issue of the GE: the announcement of the Zachary Fan Club (each member receives a club card, fob of Zachary, and The Zachary Journal, which appears on a quarterly schedule); a contest, with two monster contests, one for artwork, and many other exciting activities; and a report on MONSTERCON #2 (a two-day convention of twenty fans held on the Hollywood home of editor Alexander Zoch. Part I, Saturday, was the premiere of Roger Corman's movie, a screening of the cartoon film "Mighty Mouse" (MIGHTY)

HOJO IN SPACE!



This month, most Howard Johnson's restaurants are offering a colorful punch-out Cosmic Starship. According to Howard Johnson's, "This Cosmic Starship is used for long range intergalaxy trips. The ship has a capacity of thirty families plus all the implements necessary for setting up life on uninhabited planets. While comfort of the passenger and large cargo storage space are the main features of this craft, it can travel at the speed of light. The design of the Cosmic Starship is strictly for outer space. Attempts should not be made to fly it in the earth's atmosphere."

GRAVEYARD EXAMINATION

Starting with this issue of the GE, we'll be posing a trivia question for you monster experts and long-time FM readers. The answer will appear in the following installment of GRAVEYARD EXAMINATION. This month: What is the name of the theme song from BUCK ROGERS IN THE 25th CENTURY?

DON'T FORGET:

Next issue, we'll be presenting the winners in our Aargh!scar Award poll, listing your favorite films, actors, actresses, music, and so forth in the science fiction and horror genres. If the remaining ballots are as interesting as those already received, we can promise that you're in for a few surprises!

ANSWERS

DISGUISE	BATTLESTAR
1. E	1. Kat
2. D	2. Star
3. C	3. Sleep
4. I	4. Beast
5. A	5. Bates
6. B	6. Baltar
7. J	7. Tales
8. G	8. Sea
9. H	9. Beast
10. F	10. Sleep

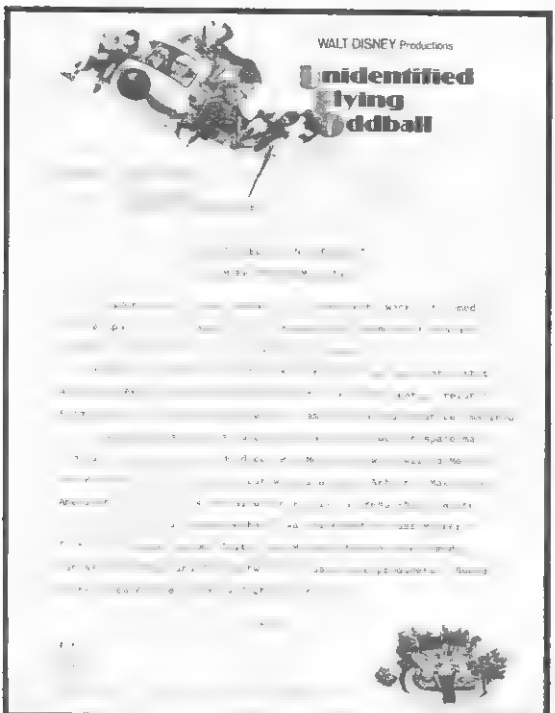
(GRAVEYARD EXAMINER CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE)

(GRAVEYARD EXAMINER CONTINUED FROM PRECEDING PAGE)

THE HORRORWORLD REPORTER

FRANKENCAR!

Hollywood's got a solution to the gas crisis. It's Frankencar, a monster-mobile set to roll into theatres in the middle of 1980. When a scientist invents a car which is powered by the thoughts of the driver, greedy operatives try to buy his patent. But the scientist is not selling, so the bad guys blow up the vehicle—with the scientist's son in it. The boy is alive, although he has lost his arms, legs, and most of his face. His grieved father thus builds a new car, Frankencar, actually incorporating his son's body into the auto. As soon as it is completed, Frankencar goes on a mission of vengeance, crushing his foes in constricting seat-belts, running them over, and knocking electrical poles into swimming pools to electrocute them. This United Artists production is certain to feel the horror genre next year!


WALT DISNEY Productions

Unidentified Flying Oddball

You've all seen ads in newspapers that announce which films are playing at local theatres. But did you also know that studios send out press releases to keep reporters informed about current or upcoming pictures? Reproduced above is one such press release, from Walt Disney Productions, regarding their new hit film UNIDENTIFIED FLYING ODDBALL.

TREK TALK

*Actor Walter Koenig (Chekov) has added his journal to the list of books soon-to-be-published as tie-ins to STAR TREK: THE MOTION PICTURE. Koenig's volume is a day-by-day account of his experiences on the set of the colossal movie. Tentative date of publication is March. A complete list of STAR TREK tie-ins appeared in the GE in FM #157.

*When Mr. Spock goes floating in space against the killer space entity seen in STAR TREK, it is actually Leonard Nimoy you will see—although he was never more than a few inches off the ground. Leonard was 'floated' on a wheeled platform which was pushed by technicians. Only Leonard will appear in the final composite, which will show him drifting in space.

*Early posters announcing the film to the public had to be withdrawn and redesigned. The reason? Paramount forgot to include actress Persis Khambatta, who plays the bald-headed Deltan Ilia.

RAY'S PROGRESS REPORT

[illegible]

on this mythological monsterfest.)

SF MINISERIES!

Scheduled for presentation in 1980 is a sprawling, grim sci-fi TV miniseries entitled THE FUTURE OF MAN. In production for ABC, it is set in the 21st Century and tentatively deals with the destruction of a major city by terrorists. According to producer Phil Barry—who spent over a year interviewing scientists in order to create an accurate portrait of the future—the miniseries will feature sophisticated anti-terrorist devices, a means to reverse the aging process, and more.

When the Walt Disney space epic THE BLACK HOLE reaches theatre screens this December, this is the ad design you'll probably see. Disney publicity people have informed the GE that the new logo has replaced the one seen in FM #154.

TV...

TV doesn't usually stand for Terrifying Vampires ... unless you happen to be referring to a pair of television shockers now in production for next season. The most horrific of these promises to be SALEM'S LOT, starring David Soul. Based on the novel by Stephen King, it's the story of a vampire cult operating out of New England. It's presently being filmed in northern California for CBS Television. Also en route to the home tube is VAMPIRE, a TV movie starring Kathryn Harrold, who is currently appearing in NIGHTWING. This one's for ABC.

END

FANG MAIL
(Continued from page 4)

WANTED! More Readers Like

CINDY HOUGHTON

FOOEY ON FORRY

Why do you insist on doing filmbooks on such cheap & undeserving films as THE LOST CONTINENT & UNDYING MONSTER? Why not focus on some recent movies? You have totally neglected films like THE OMEN, CARRIE, THE FURY, DEMON SEED, ORCA and the list goes on & on. And granted, once in a while you do stories on current flicks, but the movies are always cheap AIP movies such as INCREDIBLE MELTING MAN or FOOD OF THE GODS, which should be burned & forgotten about.

Secondly, why do you always put Dino's KONG down. I personally think that the new KONG is far superior to the original. And what's all this fuss about METROPOLIS. I have seen it on TV and thought it was junk.

I wish you would stop printing stories on such trash actors as Bela Lugosi. I know most horror fans will consider this blasphemy but it is hardly false. He could never act well and even in his most famous part as Dracula he misplayed the role badly.

Finally, I would like to say that **FM** is dropping in quality. The reason for this is because of Forry. He mishandles the articles and too often interrupts an article by adding his 2 bits which I for one don't care too much for.

TIM RUNKEL
Parlin, N.J.

May I put in my 2 bites worth? When I die, I guess we know who will be the first to apply for editorship of FM. Then there'll be no more dumb articles on rotten Bela Lugosi or boring bombs like Lon Rotwang in METROPOLIS AFTER MIDNIGHT.

COFFLIN'S COMMENTS

Mel Brooks certainly had the right idea when he did YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN; too bad the producers of LOVE AT FIRST BITE weren't as inspired. It seems that (according to this film) Dracula has, over the years, developed from a dangerous demon into a debonair disco dancer. This image doesn't sit well with the Lord of the Unliving (the only scene in the film of Vladamir attacking an unwilling victim seems oddly out of place). George Hamilton adds flair to the role of Dracula (a la Bela Lugosi) but the real star of the movie is Richard Benjamin as the inept descendant of Van Helsing in pursuit of the vampire. Comedy & horror can be combined to produce a winning formula; THE FEARLESS VAMPIRE KILLERS proved that, as did several episodes of THE NIGHTSTALKER with Darren McGavin, so there's still hope.

As an avid reader of **FAMOUS MONSTERS** since #32, I've seen some pretty gory sights but few have been as graphic as those in George Romero's DAWN OF THE DEAD. Gratuitous gore has always turned my head—altho there is surprisingly little in DAWN OF THE DEAD. This is my favorite type of horror film (one man against impossible odds) but buckets of blood ruin (for me) what could have been an exceptional film. Of course several graphic films manage to come across as shocking without relying on anything more than a few good old-fashioned chills: RABID, THEY CAME FROM WITHIN, SUSPIRIA, THE EXORCIST, CARRIE & IT'S ALIVE, to name a few. These are films that leave a favorable impression on the viewer (more or less).

WILLIAM COFFLIN
Richmond, Va.

WANTED! More Readers Like

BRIAN HOUGHTON

DUTCH TREAT

My name is Johan Colle. I'm living in the hague, Holland, and I'm 18 years old.

I'm for a long time fan of your issue "famous monsters", and I'm really happy about that, because that's the main reason for changing my life after my age of 12. before that time I had only one hobby, and that occupied my spare-time, the rest of the time I was doing homework or be at school. That hobby was diving. Until I went to a newstand and saw #105, and at my first glance it looked like an ordinary paper to me, but I was wondering what sort of paper it was, so I bought me a copy which costed 5 guilders = $2.50, so that was all my pocket money, but when I came home a whole new world of films opened for my eyes. I saw pictures of films which I even didn't know, they existed. From that day on, I bought every next copy and I began to collect them. I read them so many times that I knew from every picture which film it was. But that's not all, I began to grow more and more as horror and science fiction fan and at the age of fourteen I got my first film projector, and thanks to the "famous monsters" my first film clips from all the horror films but all silent. And I invited all my firends to see them. (When I saw a super 8 monster or science fiction-200 FT reel in the famous monsters) I delivered it at the film dealer, and I got one from my parents). And so I got a whole collection of film clips and famous monsters. At my age of fifteen I had my second projector also silent but better than the first one, and I got also more films, but when I have to tell you about the time between my fifteenth age and now, I can better write a book with 500 pages. So I tell the rest in short.

At first I have a whole book shelf full of famous monsters issues, beginning with yearbook 1968 (which I got for special prices) (but I have no subscription on famous monsters, because america is so far away and anything can happen with such a valuable issue!) so I'll buy them regularly at the newsstand. (only one dissapointment is that they do not always appear on the newsstand).

Second my filmcollection has grown to 125 films 200' reels, 400' reels 800' reels and up to 2400' reels, in all lengths color, sound, bl.wh sound, silent all sorts of films and that all thru famous monsters, I have my own home cinema complete with wall screen and 8 seats, 4 big speakers etc. etc. thanks to famous monsters I have many hobby kits from star wars, star trek, other monster scenes, monster masks etc. thanks to famous monsters. So these were the things I wanted to tell you about (it's worth it) because I wanted you to know that there are even fans at the other end of the world! from famous monsters, I wish your issue "famous monsters" all the luck in the world.

greetings and succes
bye
Johan Colle

p.s. at first I want to tell, that I'm no american (so there are maybe reading-faults in it).

Your English is better than the Editor's French or German.

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JEFF HAROS

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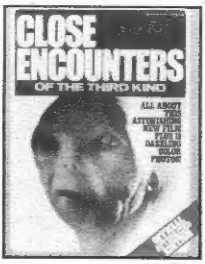

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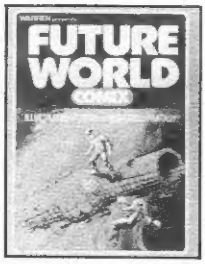

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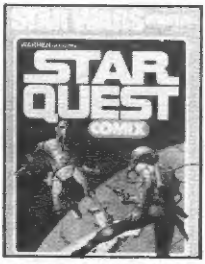

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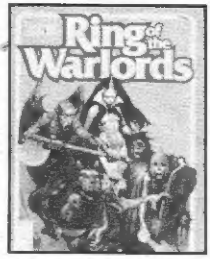

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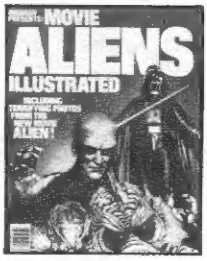

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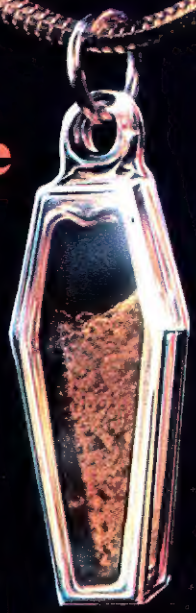

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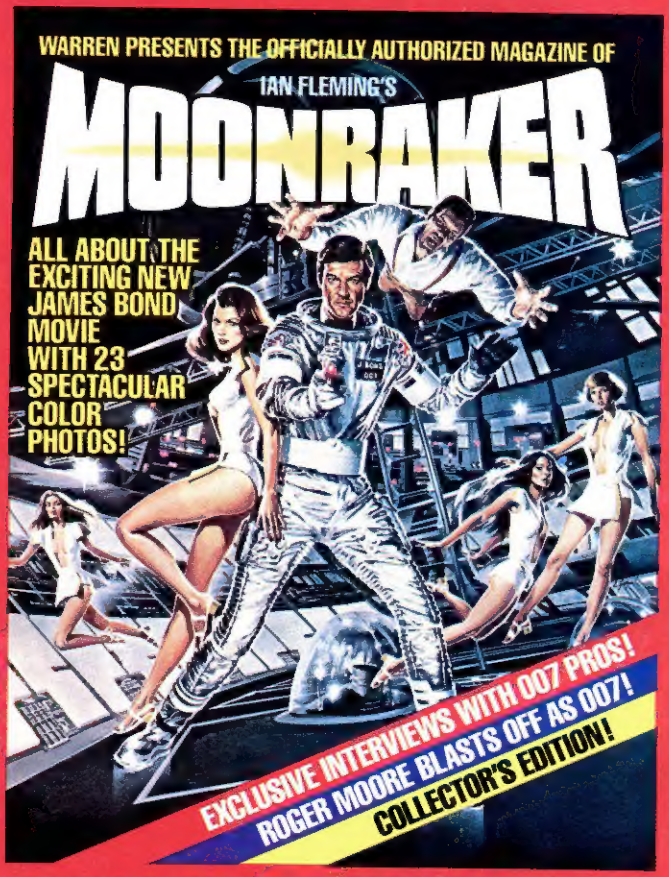

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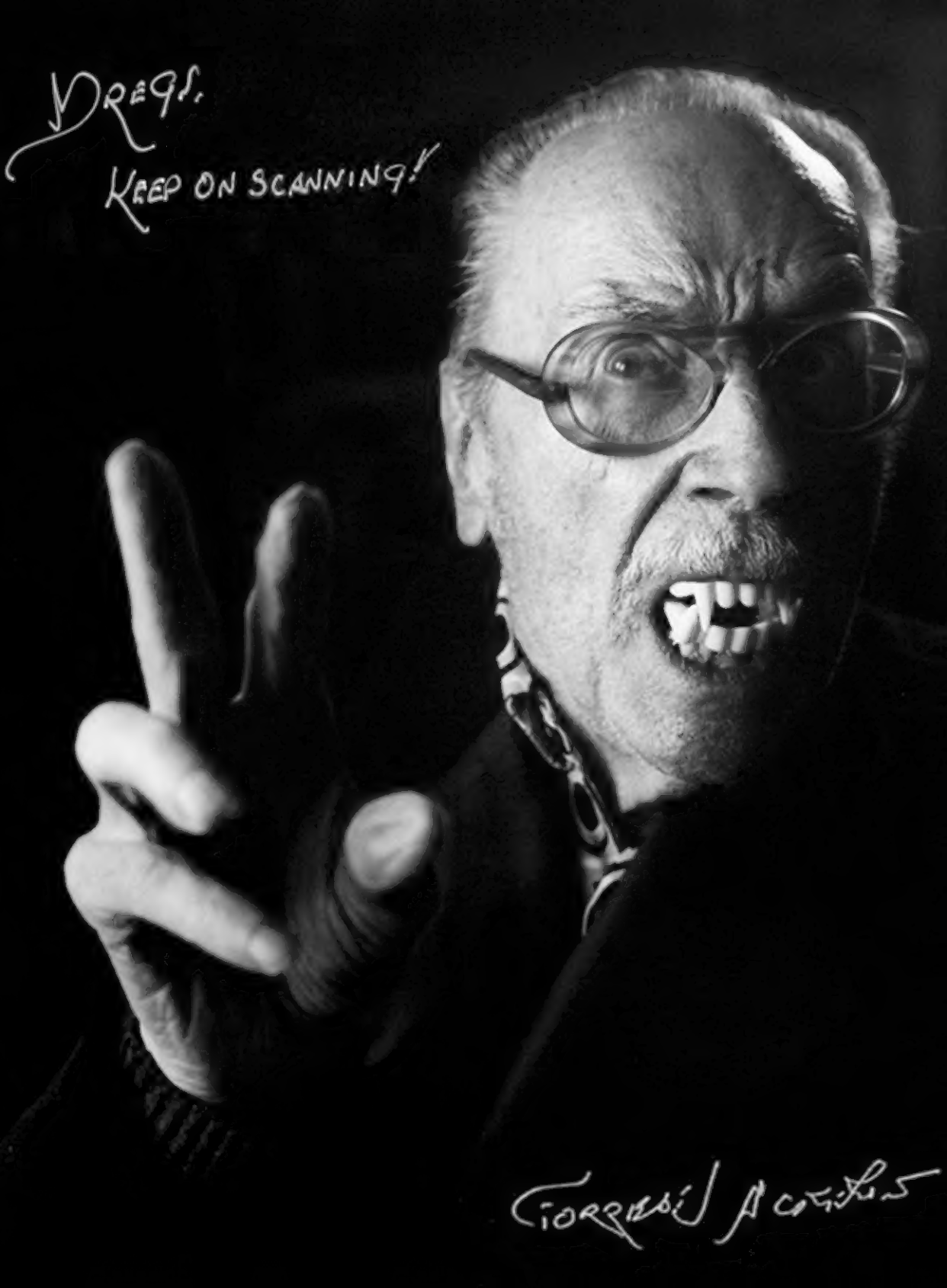
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